
THE
LITERARY MAGAZINE,
AND
BRITISH REVIEW,

For OCTOBER, 1788.

LIFE OF FRANCIS XAVIER.

WITH AN ELEGANT PORTRAIT.

FRANCIS XAVIER, commonly called the apostle of India, and one of the first disciples of Ignatius Loyola, was born in the castle of Xavier, in Navarre, on the 7th of April, 1506. His father, Don Juan de Jasso, held one of the first offices in the council of state, under the reign of John III. and his mother, Mary Azpilcueta Xavier, was heiress to two of the most illustrious families in that kingdom. The castle of Xavier, situated at the bottom of the Pyrenean mountains, seven or eight leagues distant from Pampeluna, had appertained to her ancestors for about two hundred and fifty years; it was given them by King Theobald, the first of that name, as a recompence for some signal services which they had rendered to the crown, and on this account they assumed the name of Xavier, instead of Asnarez, which was the former name of the family.

Xavier's parents being people of an exemplary life and conduct, bestowed great care on his education, and as he had an acute judgment, a quick conception, and a retentive memory, he made great proficiency in the course of a few

years. Having acquired a sufficient knowledge of the Latin language, he was sent, when about the age of eighteen, to the university of Paris, where he immediately entered upon a course of philosophy. In this branch of study he succeeded so well, that after having taken his degree as master of arts, he was judged capable of teaching it himself, and his public lectures upon Aristotle were received with the highest approbation.

About the time that Xavier began his course of philosophy, Ignatius Loyola came into France to pursue his studies, which he had been obliged to abandon in Spain. He had not long resided in Paris before he heard of this young master in philosophy, and judging that he would be a very proper person to assist him in executing the plan which he had formed of establishing a new society, he introduced himself to his acquaintance, and took every opportunity of gaining him over to his purpose, together with his companion, Peter le Fevre, a Savoyard, who lodged along with him in the college of St. Barbe. The latter, who was of a mild and pliable disposition, was easily pre-

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vailed on to resign himself to the direction of Loyola; but Xavier, who possessed a proud and haughty spirit, and whose head was filled with ambitious thoughts, made at first an obstinate resistance. Of all the foibles which attend human nature, none seems to be more universal than vanity. This the penetrating genius of Loyola well knew; he therefore thought that the only way to insure success, was to attack Xavier on the weaker side. When he had often congratulated him on account of those rare talents of nature with which he was endowed, and particularly applauded his great wit, he made it his business to procure him scholars, and to augment his reputation by the crowd of his hearers. He conducted them even to his chair, and when he presented them to their master, he never failed to extol his learning and abilities in the highest strains of panegyric.

Xavier had too much vanity not to receive with eager satisfaction whatever incense of this kind was given him. Praise was always welcome, from whatever quarter it proceeded; and he was too grateful not to acknowledge those good offices which were done him by a person from whom he had no title to expect them. He began now to look upon Loyola with other eyes, and he was informed at the same time, that this man of so despicable and forbidding an appearance, was born of one of the noblest families in Guipuscoa; that his courage was correspondent to his birth, and that a zeal for religion only, had inspired him with a desire for embracing a way of life at once so extraordinary and unbecoming his quality. These considerations in favor of Loyola, induced him to hearken without repugnance to discourses which were ill adapted to the natural bent of his temper.

Xavier's money, as often happens to those who are at a distance from their own country, began to fail him, and Loyola, who had then newly returned from some of his travels, in which he had acquired a large contribution of alms, assisted him on this pressing occasion, and by that act of generous

friendship he made an entire conquest of his affections.

Having finished the course of philosophy which he read, and which, according to the custom of those times, had lasted three years and a half, he studied divinity, by the advice of Loyola, whose scholar he now openly avowed himself to be. Loyola being incited with a strong desire of converting the Jews and infidels, discovered his intentions to Xavier, which he had already communicated to Le Fevre, and four other learned young men who had embraced his form of life. All the seven engaged themselves by a mutual promise, and by solemn vows to God Almighty, to abandon their worldly goods, to devote themselves entirely to the cause of religion, and to undertake a voyage to Jerusalem; or in case they could not accomplish that design in the course of a year, to throw themselves at the feet of the sovereign Pontiff, and beg him to dispose of them in whatever manner he should think most likely to promote the glory of the church, and the interests of the catholic religion.

These vows were made at Montmartre, in 1534. Towards the end of the year following, Xavier departed from Paris, in company with Le Fevre, Bobadilla, and others, in order to join Loyola, who was waiting for them at Venice. From Venice he made a journey to Rome to obtain the Pope's benediction; but on his return, finding that the war which had broke out between the Turks and the Venetians had interrupted the commerce of the Levant, and stopped all intercourse with the Holy-Land, he retired to Bologna, where he spent his time in such austerities and religious duties as were enjoined him by his master, to spread his reputation and acquire fresh converts.

While Xavier was thus employing his talents, and manifesting his zeal for the service in which he had engaged, he was called to Rome by Loyola, who had presented himself before the Pope, and offered his own service, as well as that of his companions, wherever his holiness might think proper to send them.

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John the Third, King of Portugal, having about this time conceived a design of sending missionaries to the East Indies, where the Portuguese arms had made considerable conquests, wrote for this purpose to Mascaregnas, his ambassador at the court of Rome, desiring him to obtain from his holiness at least six of those apostolick men who had been recommended to him by a Portuguese, named Andrew Govea, who was then principal of the college of St. Barbe, at Paris. Loyola had by this time presented to the Pope the plan of his new order, and as he had besides acquired great reputation, his holiness referred the whole business to him. This singular character, who had proposed to himself no less a design than the reformation of the whole world, and who saw the urgent necessity of Europe, where the doctrine of Luther began to spread, informed Mascaregnas, that out of ten, which was the whole number of his disciples, he could spare him only two persons. The Pope approved this answer, and he ordered Loyola to make the choice himself, who thereupon named Simon Rodriguez, a Portuguese, and Nicholas Bobadilla, a Spaniard. The first of these was at that time employed at Sienna, and the other in the kingdom of Naples; and though Rodriguez was languishing under a quartan ague when he was recalled from Sienna, he failed not to obey the summons, and embarking soon after at Civita Vecchia, carried with him to Lisbon Paul Camerino, who had some months before joined himself to the society.

Mascaregnas having finished his embassy, and being desirous of taking the other missionary along with him to Portugal, was within a day of his departure, when Loyola, finding that Bobadilla, who had fallen sick of a fever, was in no condition to undertake a journey, cast his eyes upon Xavier, as a proper person to substitute in his stead.

Xavier was informed of his voyage to the Indies but the day before the ambassador's departure; he had time, therefore, only to bid his friends farewell, and set out from Rome on the 15th

of March, 1540, in the company of Mascaregnas, without any equipage but a single book. During their journey to Lisbon, which continued three months, he subjected himself to the greatest mortifications and austerities. The horse which the ambassador allowed him for his own use he made common. At the inns he became every man's servant, descending even to the lowest and meanest offices, through an excess of humility, which made him forget the dignity of his character. He resigned his chamber and bed to those who wanted them, and never slept but on the bare ground.

As soon as they arrived at Lisbon, which was towards the end of June, Xavier retired to the hospital of All-Saints, where Rodriguez, who came by sea, had taken up his lodging. Three or four days after, they were both invited to court, where the King and Queen received Xavier with every mark of esteem and respect; but as the India fleet was not to sail till the following spring, Xavier employed his time in instructing some youth whom the King had entrusted to his charge; in visiting hospitals and prisons, and in such other offices as he conceived to be suited to his character and profession.

The time of embarkation being come, the King sent for him to the palace, where he discoursed with him upon the state of the Indies, and delivered to him all the instructions and credentials which he judged necessary for his mission. Xavier received them with the most profound respect; saying, that as far as his weak strength would permit, he would endeavour to sustain the burden which his majesty had laid upon his shoulders.

On April the 7th, 1541, when entering on the 36th year of his age, Xavier sailed from Lisbon, under the command of Don Martin Alphonso de Sosa, Viceroy of the Indies, a man of great experience, who had resided in those countries for many years. Rodriguez remained in Portugal at the King's request, but Xavier carried along with him, as companions, Paul Camerino, an Italian, and Francis Manfilla, a Portuguese,

igueneſe, who was not yet in prieſt's orders. After a continual navigation of five months, they arrived, towards the end of Auguſt, at Mozambique,* on the eaſtern coaſt of Africa, where they paſſed the winter. Setting out again in the ſpring, they proceeded thence to Melinda, † where they tarried but a few days, and ſtill coaſting along the African ſhores, touched at the iſland of Socotora‡, from which they croſſed the Arabian gulph, and reached the port of Goa on the 6th of May, 1542, being the thirteenth month after their departure from Liſbon.

The town of Goa is ſituated on the Malabar coaſt, in an iſland of the ſame name, which is about ſix leagues in circumference. It is the capital of the Portugueſe ſettlements in India; the ſeat of the biſhop and the viceroy, and a place of very conſiderable trade. It had been built by the Moors ſeveral years before the Europeans paſſed into the Indies; and in the year 1510, Don Alphonſo d'Albuquerque took it from the infidels, and ſubjected it to the crown of Portugal.

When Xavier landed, he repaired immediately to the hoſpital, and there took up his lodging, notwithſtanding the invitation of the governor, who offered him the uſe of his palace. He began his miſſionary function by waiting on the biſhop of Goa, whoſe name was Juan d'Albuquerque. This prelate, ſtruck with the venerable air and modeſt countenance of Xavier, who after preſenting the Pope's briefs, had fallen on his knees to implore his bleſſing, immediately raiſed him up and embraced him, aſſuring him at the

ſame time, that if his episcopal authority ſhould be neceſſary to ſupport his character and ſecond his labours, it ſhould never be wanting.

The Portugueſe who reſided at Goa, were at this time plunged into the groſſeſt debauchery; the pleaſures of Aſia had corrupted their morals, and their continual intercourſe with the natives ſtill added to their ſhameful depravity. Xavier therefore, before he attempted the converſion of the Infidels, thought it would be proper to bring about a reformation among the Europeans. For this purpoſe he laboured with the greateſt aſſiduity, paying particular attention to the inſtruction of their children, occaſionally viſiting the hoſpitals, and relieving the diſtreſſed by diſtributing among them whatever he could procure in charity. In the afternoon he made a turn through the town with a bell in his hand, ſummoning fathers of families to ſend their children and ſlaves to be catechiſed. He afterwards proceeded to public preaching, and in order that the Indians might underſtand as well as the Portugueſe, he endeavoured to ſpeak the Indian language, though in a groſs and clowniſh dialect.

Having been informed by Michael Vaz, Vicar-General of the Indies, that on the Oriental coaſt, which lies extended from Cape Comorin to the iſle of Manar, and is named the Fiſhing coaſt, there were certain people, called Paravas or Fiſhers, who had cauſed themſelves to be baptized ſome time before, on account of aſſiſtance given them by the Portugueſe againſt the Moors, Xavier ſet out thither in the year 1542, taking with

* A city on the eaſtern coaſt of Africa, oppoſite to the iſland of Madagaſcar, and the capital of an iſland of the ſame name. It is conſidered by the Portugueſe as the key of the Indies. It has an excellent harbour, which affords a ſafe retreat for veſſels during the winter ſeaſon. The Dutch attempted to take it, but without ſucceſs, in 1607.

† The capital of a kingdom of the ſame name near the mouth of the river Quilmanzi, where the Portugueſe carry on a great trade.

‡ Situated between Arabia the Happy and the African coaſt, twenty leagues to the north eaſt of Cape Guardafui: it is the moſt conſiderable iſland towards the mouth of the Red ſea, but it has no port capable of containing a large number of veſſels. It is divided into two parts by a chain of mountains which raiſe their ſummits above the clouds. It is reckoned to be about twenty leagues in length, and nine in breadth. The capital is called Tamarin, and is very populous. This iſland abounds with cattle and fruit. The king of it is dependant upon one of the cheriſs of Arabia.

him two young ecclesiastics of Goa, who had a tolerable knowledge of the language spoken on that coast. After staying here above a twelvemonth, during which he employed all his abilities and address to bring over the Paravas to the Catholick faith, finding that one priest was not sufficient for the number of new converts, he resolved to seek for assistance; and with that view set out on his return, about the conclusion of the year 1543, and having got to Cochin by the middle of January, arrived at Goa not long after.

Xavier having given the charge of the seminary of Goa to Father Paul Camerino, and procured such assistance as he could, returned with all expedition to the Paravas. After this he visited the kingdom of Travancar, where the Brachmans, who were incensed at seeing their pagods abandoned for the new doctrine of a stranger, resolved to be revenged upon the author of so sudden a change. Several attempts were made to dispatch him, by people secretly engaged to lie in wait for him; and once he was obliged to hide himself in the covert of a forest, where he passed the following night upon a tree, to escape the fury of his enemies, who made the strictest search to find him.

It would require a whole volume to give a particular account of all the places which Xavier visited in the course of his travels through India, for the purpose of converting the infidels, and extending the power and influence of the Society of Jesus, of which he was a most zealous member. From the kingdom of Travancar he proceeded to Camboya, the Isle of Manar *, Meliapor †, Malacca, Macassar or Celebes, Amboyna, Ternate, and the Isles Del Moro, situated at the distance of about sixty leagues from

the Moluccas, and inhabited by a barbarous and savage race of people. In short, those who have taken the trouble to calculate the distances of all the places through which he passed assure us, that they amount to more than thirty-three thousand leagues, which is above three times the circumference of the earth.

After a variety of adventures in the places above-mentioned, Xavier returned to Malacca, where he stayed a few months. Being upon the point of his departure, the Portuguese ships, which used to come every year from China arrived there, in one of which a Japanese gentleman, named Anger, came passenger. He was a married man, of thirty-five years of age, possessed of considerable riches; and who, having committed a murder in his own country, wished to seek a refuge among the Portuguese. He was conducted to Xavier, who, having instructed him in the principles of the Christian religion, sent him, and his two servants, who were likewise natives of Japan, to the seminary of Goa.

Xavier being again desirous of visiting the Fishing Coast, embarked for Cochin, where he arrived on the 21st of January, 1548. As his principal design was to establish the society in the Indies, he collected all the Jesuits who were on the coast, and having distributed them into their proper places, appointed Anthony Criminal to be their superior. He then set out for Goa, which he reached on the 20th of March of the same year. The first thing he did was to visit the three Japanese, whom he found disposed to receive baptism. He again instructed them himself, and they were baptized with great solemnity in the cathedral by Don Juan d'Albuquerque, bishop of Goa.

* This island lies on the western side of Ceylon, from which it is separated only by a very narrow channel. It was once celebrated for its pearl fishery; but no pearls are found there at present. The Portuguese were masters of it, and established a government there, but they were driven from thence by the Dutch in 1658.

† It is pretended that St. Thomas resided long in this city. Near it is a grotto, in the side of a hill, in which they say the apostle hid himself during a persecution. It lies on the coast of Coromandel, and is known also by the name of St. Thomas.

In discoursing with these people, Xavier learned that the empire of Japan was one of the most populous in the world; that the Japanese were naturally ingenious, and of a tractable disposition; that they were fond of knowledge, and very rational; he therefore formed a resolution of subduing that country, which had been lately discovered by the Portuguese *. This enterprize appeared to him more worthy of being undertaken, as no missionary had ever set his foot in Japan; and as he persuaded himself that the glory of so dangerous an expedition was reserved for him.

Before he set out upon this important voyage, he appointed Paul Camerino superior general of all the Indies in his stead; and Anthony Gomez rector of the seminary of Goa. He sent missionaries to the Fishing-coast, to the island of Manar, Ormus, and various other places; and after having told Camerino in what manner he would have the company governed, embarked with Cosmo de Torrez, John Fernandez, and the three Japanese proselytes, in the month of April, 1549. In their way they touched at Cochín, and came to Malacca in the latter end of May, where they went on board a Chinese vessel, which arrived with them at the port of Cangoxima, in Japan, on the 15th of August of the same year.

All the Japanese, except a few who make profession of atheism, and believe the soul mortal, are idolaters, and hold the transmigration of souls, after the doctrine of Pythagoras; some of them adore the sun and moon, and the gods of China; and there are others who worship the devil, under the most frightful and ridiculous figures. Besides these, they have a certain mysterious deity, called Ami-

da, who has built a paradise, at such distance from the earth, that souls cannot reach it in less time than three years. But the god Xaca is he of whom they relate the greatest wonders. Xaca, as they pretend, being born of a queen who never lost her virginity, retired to the deserts of Siam, and there underwent severe sufferings, to expiate the sins of men; after which he assembled a great number of disciples, who spread his heavenly doctrine into various parts of the earth.

It is almost incredible how many temples have been erected in honor of Amida and Xaca; every city is full of them, and their magnificence is equal to their number; nor is it easy to conceive to what lengths blinded superstition carries the votaries of these two deities. Some throw themselves headlong from rocks, or bury themselves alive in caves of the earth; and it is no extraordinary thing to see barks full of men and women with stones hanging from their necks, who, after singing to the praises of their gods, cast themselves into the sea.

Immediately after the arrival of Xavier and his companions, Anger, who, since his baptism, had been known by the name of St. Foy, went to pay his duty to the King of Saxsuma, whose palace was about the distance of six leagues from Cangoxima, which belonged to his dominions. That prince, who had before shewn great favor to Anger, received him with much kindness; and he easily obtained pardon from him for the crime which had obliged him to quit his country. Their conversation turned chiefly upon the Christian religion; and Anger observing that the King listened readily to their discourse, shewed him a small picture of the Virgin,

* It is not certainly known who first discovered Japan. Some authors fix the date of this event in the year 1534. But Xavier, in a letter which he wrote from Cochín, says, that it was five or six years later; and Peter Maffeus and other writers are of the opinion of Galvanus, who tells us, in his book, entitled, *The First who discovered the World*, that Antony Mota, Francis Zaimot, and Anthony Dextat, were driven upon the coasts of Japan by a dreadful tempest in the year 1542. It is not however certain, whether some others had not visited it before.

holding the infant Jesus in her arms. This picture, which was exceedingly well painted, had been given by Xavier to the Japanese, that he might shew it when an occasion offered. The King was highly delighted with the sight of it; he fell upon his knees with all his courtiers before it, and adored her whom he saw painted, and whom he took for a goddess.

Xavier, overjoyed to find the court of Saxsuma so favorably disposed, gave himself up entirely to the study of the Japanese language. When he thought he had acquired a knowledge of it, sufficient to make himself understood, he went to ask the King's permission to preach Christianity in his dominions. The King very graciously granted this request, and even caused letters patent to be expedited, by which he allowed all his subjects, who might be inclined, to embrace the Christian religion.

Xavier, taking advantage of this happy conjuncture, immediately began to preach at Cangoxima. His success at first was far from answering his expectations. The mysteries of the Christian religion seemed to shock his auditors, and he was openly derided, and treated as a visionary, and a madman. His courage and resolution however increased, in proportion to the difficulties he had to encounter, and at length by the influence of his preaching, some were induced to renounce idolatry, and to suffer themselves to be baptized.

The bonzes, whose interest it was to keep the people in the religion of the country, because they lived on the offerings which were presented to their gods, resolved to interrupt the progress of Xavier and his companions. They went to the King in a body, and represented to him that he could not, without great impiety, suffer three miserable strangers to destroy the altars of the tutelary deities of the empire, and erect new ones to a being who would permit no one to be worshipped but himself.

The bonzes could not have spoken

to the King at a more favorable time. He had heard that the Portuguese vessels, which commonly arrived at Cangoxima, had taken the route to Firando, and this news gave him great uneasiness; because his subjects were not only deprived of the advantage arising from their commerce, but because the King of Firando, who was his enemy, would receive all the benefit of it. As the good-will which this prince had shewn at first to Xavier was founded entirely on interest, he readily listened to the advice of the bonzes, and forbade any of his subjects, on the pain of death, to become Christians, or to forsake the established religion of their country.

Xavier, judging that this prohibition would prevent the people of Cangoxima from holding any farther intercourse with him, retired into the dominions of the king of Firando, by whom he was very well received. That Prince, charmed with having an opportunity of giving umbrage to the king of Saxsuma, permitted the three Portuguese bonzes to publish their law throughout his whole kingdom. Induced by this encouragement, Xavier left the care of Firando to one of his companions, and set out for Meaco, the capital of the empire, as the conquest of this place seemed to promise that of the whole country.

In prosecution of this design, he departed with Fernandez, and two Japanese converts, in the end of October, 1550. They gained Facata by sea, which is about twenty leagues from Firando, and there embarked for Amanguchi, which is more than an hundred leagues distant. Amanguchi is the capital of the kingdom of Nanguto, and one of the richest cities of Japan. Xavier stopped here to preach; but all the fruit he reaped from a month's labour, was to be considered by the inhabitants as a fabulist. He therefore pursued his journey, in the latter end of December, a season of continual rains, and was obliged to traverse frightful forests, countries

countries overflowed with water, impetuous torrents, to clamber up mountains and steep precipices, to pass through thorny paths, and suffer a variety of hardships, all which he bore with undaunted courage, and arrived at Meaco in the month of February, 1551. Here he endeavoured to obtain an audience of the supreme pontiff of the Japanese religion; but not being able to procure it for want of money, he began to preach in public, without any permission. The people despised him so much, that they would not even condescend to hear him; and after having made, without success, every attempt, for the space of fifteen days, in a city where he had promised himself a very favorable reception, he returned to Amanguchi, greatly mortified at seeing his greatest enterprize miscarry. As soon as he reached that place, he got himself introduced to the King, by means of some presents, which he had the precaution to bring from Firando, through which he passed. These presents consisted of a small clock, a musical instrument, very harmonious, and some other little works, the rarity of which made all their value. The King was so charmed with these curiosities, that he permitted Xavier to preach the Christian religion, and gave leave to his subjects to embrace it.

Xavier's success at Amanguchi, where he baptized more than five hundred persons in less than two months, again alarmed the bonzes so much, that they employed every artifice to render both him and his companions suspected by the King; they represented them as enemies to his person, and men of a dangerous character; so that the friendship of the prince was changed into hatred, and instead of a protector, he became their persecutor.

Notwithstanding this change in the King's disposition, and the severity with which those were treated who had received baptism, the number of the converts increased to more than three thousand; but, as the greater

part of the Japanese declared, that they would not change their religion, till the Chinese, whom they considered as their masters in the arts and sciences, had given them the example, Xavier resolved to go and subject this great nation to the Catholick faith, that the Japanese might have no longer any pretext for remaining in the errors of infidelity.

In the midst of these transactions, a Portuguese ship, commanded by Edward Gama, arrived at the kingdom of Bungo, and Xavier having been informed that it would sail for China in a month at farthest, left Torrez and Fernandez at Amanguchi, and with five companions set out on foot to join this vessel. Having walked on with much alacrity till he came to a little village, about two leagues distant from Figen, his strength failed him, and he was obliged to stop; three of his attendants went before to carry this news to Gama, who finding that he was so near, mounted his horse, and with the principal Portuguese merchants immediately went to receive him.

Xavier, refreshed by a little repose, had begun to pursue his journey. When this cavalcade met him, he was walking between the two companions who had remained with him, and carried his portmanteau on his shoulder. Gama was surprised to see a man of his character in such a situation, and alighting from his horse with all his company, saluted him with the greatest respect. After the first compliments were over, they invited the father to mount on horseback, but he refused their offer, so that the Portuguese gave their horses to be led after them, and accompanied him on foot to the port.

As soon as those who remained in the ship saw Xavier appear, they saluted him with all their artillery, according to the orders left by their captain; as they repeated this ceremony four times, the noise of the cannon was heard so distinctly at Fucheo, that the people were alarmed, and the king imagining that the Portuguese

tuguese were attacked by certain pyrates, who had for some time ravaged the Coast, sent one of the gentlemen of his Court to the Captain of the vessel, to learn the truth. Gama shewing Xavier to the messenger, told him, that the noise which had been heard, was only a small demonstration of respect, due to so eminent a person, who was much esteemed by the King of Portugal. The Japanese made a faithful report of all that he had seen to his Sovereign, and the King of Bungo, both to satisfy his own curiosity, and to gratify the Portuguese, sent a prince of the blood royal to invite Xavier to Court.

The Portuguese, overjoyed to find that so honorable an embassy was sent them, assembled to consult in what manner Xavier ought to appear at Court. All were of opinion that it would be very proper to display the utmost pomp and magnificence, in order that the Japanese might entertain higher ideas of the Christians, and thence be more readily induced to embrace their religion. This sentiment Xavier at first opposed, but he afterwards yielded, and every thing being prepared, he set out early the next day with a splendid retinue.—Thirty Portuguese of the first note, clothed in rich attire, and wearing chains of gold set with precious stones, attended him; he himself had a cassock of black camblet, with a surplice above it, and a stole of green velvet trimmed with gold brocade.—The chaloupe and two boats in which they went from the ship to the city, were covered with rich Chinese tapestry, and ornamented with silk banners of various colors; they had also trumpets, flutes, and other musical instruments, which sounding together formed an agreeable harmony.

A report having been spread that the great bonze of Europe was coming, such a multitude of people had assembled upon the banks of the river, that the Portuguese met with some difficulty in landing. In the square before the King's palace, they found an officer of the guards, who received

them at the head of five hundred men under arms; thence they passed through several halls into the King's anti-chamber, from which, after a great many ceremonies in the manner of the country, Xavier was introduced to an audience in an apartment glittering on all sides with gilding. The King received him with extraordinary honors, and even admitted him to eat at his table, which is the greatest mark of friendship and respect that the princes of Japan can bestow on those whom they esteem.

These honors acquired Xavier so much reputation and credit among the people, that numbers flocked from all quarters, and voluntarily received baptism; but the bonzes fired with jealousy, and alarmed at his success, used all their efforts to check it. They even endeavoured to terrify the King with the dread of an insurrection among his subjects, superstitiously attached to their own gods and temples, and they propagated the blackest calumnies concerning Xavier, with a view to incense the populace against him; but not being able to succeed this way, they engaged him in several disputes in presence of the Court, with a famous bonze, a man well skilled in all the Japanese sciences, and who had for thirty years taught the mysteries of Amida and Xaca, in the most celebrated university of the kingdom.—By this, they hoped to disconcert Xavier so much, that he would become ridiculous in the eyes of the Japanese; but all these disputes terminated in his favor, and though the King allowed, that the Portuguese bonze had got the better, both he and his courtiers continued faithful to Amida and Xaca, and Xavier gained little at Bungo after all his labor, but some vain applauses which interest obliged the Japanese monarch to bestow upon him.

On the twentieth of November, 1551, Xavier took leave of the king, who shewed him more kindness than ever, and going on board Gama's vessel, departed the same day from

I i Japan,

Japan, after having continued in that country two years and four months. Soon after they had set sail, they were attacked by a dreadful tempest, which seemed to threaten them with destruction, but they at length arrived happily at the Isle of Sancian. Here Xavier found a ship ready to sail to Malacca, and being desirous before he made any attempt of entering China, to return to the Indies, and settle the affairs of the company, he embarked in this vessel, which belonged to James Pereyra, a rich merchant, and his particular friend. The conversation they had together during the course of their voyage happened to turn upon the spiritual conquest of China, which Pereyra very much approved; offering his ship and all his goods to forward the enterprize. This generous offer Xavier with joy accepted, and he engaged on his part to prevail upon the Viceroy to send an embassy to China, in order to facilitate their design.

Xavier's first care on his arrival at Malacca, was to visit the old governor Don Pedro de Sylva, and his successor Don Alvarez d'Atayda; he communicated to them his project concerning an embassy to China, which they both thought would be equally advantageous to the crown of Portugal, and to the Holy See. Pereyra, encouraged by this approbation, engaged to furnish thirty thousand crowns, and being obliged to repair to Sunda, in order to unload his merchandize, took leave of Xavier, who embarked for Cochin, and from thence proceeded to Goa, where he arrived in the month of February, 1552. Xavier now applied himself wholly to the affairs of the company, and having established Gaspar Barzeus, vice provincial in the Indies, returned to Malacca with intention of prosecuting his darling object, the conversion of the Chinese; and though he found on his arrival that

the governor Don Alvarez d'Atayda, who had at first highly approved of his scheme, had now become an enemy to it, on account of some umbrage given him by Pereyra, he resolved not to abandon it: he therefore determined, as he could not publicly, to make his way into the kingdom by stealth.

Full of this chimerical idea, after having prevailed upon the Grand Vicar of Malacca to publish a sentence of excommunication against the governor, who had thwarted his design, and having dispatched Balthazar Jago, Edward Silvia, and Peter Alcaceva to Japan, he embarked in a vessel called the Holy Cross, which was bound to the island of Sancian. When he arrived at this place, he had new difficulties to encounter, for he could find no person bold enough to undertake to carry him to China; however, a Chinese merchant offered to run this hazard, provided he would pay him well for his trouble. Having made an agreement, and obtained from his friends the sum required by the Chinese for carrying him to Canton, he prepared for his departure; but the Portuguese at Sancian, fearing that his zeal might ruin their affairs with the Chinese,* and expose them to danger, begged him to suspend his design, at least for some time. Xavier moved by their intreaties, engaged his word that he would not go to China, till they had terminated all their business, and departed from the island. In the mean time he was seized with a violent fever, but recovering in five days, he pursued his design with more ardour than ever.

All the Portuguese ships having sailed for the places of their destination, except the Holy Cross, which was not completely loaded, Xavier was reduced to so much distress for want of every necessary, that he could scarcely find enough to allay the calls of

* The Chinese had given the Portuguese liberty to trade here, without violating their fundamental law, which excluded all strangers from entering their country. They were not permitted however to build houses, or to form any regular establishment, being suffered only to erect slight cabins, covered with reeds or mats, that they might not be always cooped up in their vessels.

of nature; and his fever returning on the twentieth of November, he retired into the Holy Cross, but the agitation of the vessel having occasioned great pains in his head, he intreated the Captain the following day to set him again on shore. He was now obliged to take up his lodging in the wretched cabin of a charitable Portuguese; his illness increased, and brought on a delirium, during which he raved of China, and in this state he continued till the second of December, 1552, when he breathed his last, aged forty-six years, ten of which he had spent in the Indies.

His body was interred in Sancian, without any ceremony, in a coffin filled with quicklime; but it was taken up some months after, and carried to Malacca, from which it was transported to Goa, and deposited in the chapel of the church of St. Paul, with great pomp and solemnity.

Xavier's stature was somewhat above the middle size, his constitution was strong; he had a pleasing and majestic air, a fresh color, a large forehead, and his eyes were blue, but extremely piercing and lively; his hair and beard were of a dark chestnut; continual labor had made him grey betimes, and in the last year of his life, he was grizzled almost to whiteness.

Father Bouhours, who has written the life of this extraordinary man, a work which was translated into English by the celebrated Dryden, has been at great pains to display the miracles which it is said Xavier performed in different parts of the Indies, in support of his apostolic mission; such as raising people from the dead, calming tempests, turning salt water into fresh, and many others. One miracle operated in his favor is extremely singular, and is thus related with great gravity by his zealous biographer. A storm having arisen when Xavier was at sea, in the neighbourhood of Amboyna, he drew from his bosom a little crucifix, which he always carried about him, and leaning over the deck, intended to

to have dipt it into the water; but the crucifix dropt from his hand, and was soon carried off by the waves.—Next morning, having landed on the island of Baranura, he was walking along the shore in company with one of his companions, when he beheld a crab fish emerge from the sea, which carried betwixt its claws the same crucifix raised on high. The crab fish advanced towards the holy father, and having presented him with his crucifix, immediately returned to its own element.

After the death of Xavier, the society made an astonishing progress in Japan. Motives of interest were the principal cause of the facility they found in making proselytes, and establishing themselves there; for the kings of that empire, being desirous of inviting the Portuguese into their dominions, because they made commerce flourish in them, granted them every kind of privilege, and tolerated their religion. The Jesuits, who were permitted to preach publicly, having converted an infinite number of the Japanese to the Catholic faith, subdued at length the kings of Bungo, Arima and Imura, whom they persuaded to send an embassy of obedience to Gregory XIII.

This embassy arrived at Rome, in the year 1585, and was received with much pomp and solemnity. The ambassadors presented their letters to his Holiness, which were inscribed, "To him who holds the place of God upon earth." Gregory caressed them greatly, and dying soon after he had given them audience, Sixtus, who succeeded, caressed them still more.

Christianity advanced so much in Japan, that the Emperor, uneasy at having above two hundred thousand Christians in his Empire, in the year 1586 forbade his subjects, under pain of death to embrace it, and six years after he suppressed all the Christian churches; but the Jesuits, trusting in their numbers, continued their exercises notwithstanding this prohibition, by which they brought upon themselves a cruel persecution, which

continued for several years, till at length the Portuguese were expelled, and a general massacre put an end to the Christian religion in that kingdom.

It appears very probable that the banishment of the Portuguese, and the extirpation of the Christian religion from Japan, were in some measure occasioned by the machinations of the Dutch, who about the year 1611, had so far ingratiated themselves with the Emperor, as to procure liberty to trade in his dominions. Their enmity to the Portuguese and Spaniards, and their jealousy at seeing them extend their commerce so much in India, no doubt incited them to thwart the designs of these enemies and rivals, in order to secure to themselves a lucrative branch of trade. The Dutch, it is said, having taken a Portuguese vessel near the Cape of Good Hope, intercepted a letter from some of the Jesuits, addressed to the Pope, in which they promised that in a few years they would reduce all Japan under obedience to the holy see. This letter the Dutch sent to the Japanese monarch, and interpreted it in such a manner, as if the Jesuits intended to drive the Emperor from his throne, by the assistance of their new proselytes, giving him to understand that the Pope was accustomed to take the kingdoms of others, and to bestow them upon whomsoever he pleased.

This accusation appeared to the Japanese, already suspicious, to be so much the better founded, as they had remarked the great respect and veneration entertained by the new Christians for their spiritual teachers, the Jesuits, who on the other hand were always ready to accept whatever was given them by these people. Some of the governors also made great complaints, that the presents they had been formerly accustomed to receive, were withheld, as the new proselytes bestowed upon their priests the most valuable of their effects. Besides this, the Dutch presented to the Emperor a map of the world, and having shewn him how far the King of Spain and the Portuguese had pushed their conquests, on one side

to the Manillas, and on the other to Macao, pointed out to him how easy it would be for them to make themselves masters of Japan.

A most dreadful persecution was upon this raised against the new proselytes, and it is hardly possible to conceive the severity of the punishment to which some of them were exposed at various times, and for the space of many years; until at length, being tired with seeing so many of their brethren butchered and tortured in the most inhuman manner, they retired in a fit of despair, to the number of about thirty-seven thousand, into the castle of Sima-bara, on the coasts of Arima, in the island of Ximo, and province of Figen, with a firm resolution of making an obstinate resistance. Here they were closely besieged by the imperial troops, and though they defended themselves with surprising courage and resolution for the space of three months, they were at length forced to yield to superior force. The castle was taken on the 12th of April, 1638, and all the besieged put to death; nor did this bloody tragedy end here, for an universal massacre took place, and all the Christians, throughout the empire were slaughtered without distinction. After that time the Portuguese, and all other Christian nations, except the Dutch, were for ever excluded from Japan. The Dutch were exempted from this prohibition merely because they pretended not to be of the same religion as the Portuguese, and because when asked if they were Christians, they gave an evasive answer, and replied, that they were Dutchmen. They even are confined to a very small space of ground, and must submit to very great indignities, as appears from the account of their own countryman, Kämpfer, who tells us, that "so great" was the avarice of the Dutch, and "such the alluring power of the Japanese gold, that rather than forego" the prospect of a trade so very advantageous, they submitted themselves to an almost perpetual imprisonment, (for such is in fact their

"abode

“ abode at Desima*) and chose to
“ undergo many severe hardships from
“ a foreign heathen nation, such as
“ to abstain from performing divine
“ service on Sundays and festivals, to
“ refrain from praying or singing
“ psalms in public, to avoid the sign
“ of the cross before the natives, and

“ all other outward marks of Christiani-
“ nity; and lastly, submissively and
“ patiently to bear the abusive and in-
“ jurious treatment of those insolent
“ infidels towards them, than which,
“ nothing can be offered more in-
“ sulting to a noble and generous
“ mind.”

A NEW CHEMICAL DISCOVERY.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

MR. Bertholet, a gentleman to whom the public are much indebted for many new chemical discoveries, has lately, in making experiments upon aurum fulminans, found out another fulminating substance, the effects of which are most astonishing.

The properties of aurum fulminans are well known; but Mr. Bertholet has been able to obtain from silver a production still stronger and more surprising, which by being brought into contact with any body whatever, fulminates in an instant. As this discovery seems to throw great light upon the new theory of chemistry, we shall describe the process used in making this powder, to prevent disagreeable accidents, to which those would undoubtedly be exposed who should attempt the experiment without being well acquainted with its nature and effects.

Take a small quantity of fine silver and dissolve it in nitrous acid. Precipitate the silver of this dissolution by lime water; decant the liquor, and expose the precipitate for three days in the open air. Mr. Bertholet imagines that the presence of light may greatly contribute to the success of the experiment. Diffuse this dried preparation in some caustic volatile alkali, and it will then assume the appearance of a black powder; pour off the liquor, and leave this powder to dry in the open air, and you will have what is called argentum fulminans.

Neither gun-powder, nor even aurum fulminans, can be compared to this new preparation. To produce an explosion with the former fire is necessary, and a sensible degree of heat is requisite to make the latter fulminate; but the contact of any cold body is sufficient to produce that effect from the argentum fulminans: in short, when this powder is once obtained, it can no longer be touched; one must not attempt to put it into a bottle, it must be suffered to remain in the earthen pot, in which, by evaporation, it has acquired that terrible property. We shall now point out some of its effects, the truth of which we can attest, having been partly eye-witnesses of them.

The weight of a grain of argentum fulminans, which was contained in a small glass capsule, reduced it to powder, and carried the broken pieces of glass with a force sufficient to pierce several folds of paper.

The wind having overturned a paper, upon which some grains of this powder were placed, that part of them fulminated which was put in contact with the hand, and those which fell from the hand to the earth, made a still louder explosion. In short, a drop of water falling upon the powder caused it to fulminate.

It may be needless to observe, that one ought not to attempt this experiment but with a very small quantity of

* The place where the Dutch factory is situated, on the point of a rock, in a small island, or as Thevenot calls it, a peninsula, and separated from the city Nangasacki only by a river or wall, which excludes them from all communication with the town.

the powder, about the weight of a grain, for a larger would produce a very dangerous explosion.

It will be necessary also, in making this preparation, to have the face covered with a mask, furnished with glass sights; and to avoid the danger of glass capsule breaking, it will be prudent to dry the argentum fulminans in small capsule made of metal.

We shall only mention another experiment, which will serve to give a fuller idea of the property of this fulminating powder.

Take some of the caustic volatile alkali which has been employed in the conversion of the acid of the silver, into that black precipitation which composes the argentum fulminans, put this alkali into a small matrafs of thin glass, and give it that degree of ebullition which is necessary to complete a combination; take the matrafs from the fire, and there will be formed on the inside a thin crust full of small crystals, which will be covered by the liquor.

If under this liquor, when cooled, one of these crystals be touched, it produces an explosion which will burst the matrafs: we have seen the liquor thrown to the ceiling of the laboratory,

and the matrafs broken to pieces by this experiment.

Having described the process necessary for producing argentum fulminans, and having given an account of some of its effects, and mentioned the precautions to be taken in making the experiment, we shall say a few words concerning the theory of the phenomenon, which is the same as that of aurum fulminans, established by Mr. Bertholet.*

In this operation the oxygenous part†, which disengages itself very easily from the silver, combines with the hydrogenous‡ of the volatile caustic alkali; from the combination of the oxygenous and the hydrogenous parts, water is formed in the state of vapor.

This water, possessing all the elasticity, and all the expansive force with which it is endued in that state, is the principal cause of this phenomenon in which the azoth, which detaches itself from the volatile caustic alkali, with all its expansibility, has also a great share.

After fulmination, the silver is found revived, that is to say, it recovers its metallic state, and becomes as white and brilliant as it was before.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN ON HIS TRAVELS THROUGH RUSSIA.

THE sciences are not in a flourishing condition in Russia; and it is certain that they cannot make much progress while things continue as they are at present. Some of the great, indeed, cultivate them with success; but those who protected them near the throne are now no more. It is to the Orlovs, who sent learned men, part Russians and part foreigners, into different provinces of the empire, that we are indebted for excellent accounts of many

of those countries; but since the death of Prince Orlov, and the removal of the other two, this patronage has been discontinued, and the present expedition towards the river Lena, is rather the effect of chance than of mature deliberation. It was commanded at the request of Professor Pallas, who has not however sufficient influence, in other respects, to insure its success.

Among people of ordinary condition, little attention is paid to sci-

* See the Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Sciences, for 1785.

† That which generates acid.

‡ That which generates water.

ence; and still less among those of inferior rank, as there are no colleges, or public schools, in the towns and villages of the empire. Those who are desirous of procuring instruction, are obliged to enter into the monasteries, in which youth are educated to be monks and priests; or to board in the houses of some French and Germans, who have undertaken the office of instructing young people. For those of ordinary rank this education is too expensive. It is besides much inferior to what it is generally said to be. People therefore are under the necessity of giving a few roubles to some disbanded soldier to instruct their children; that is to say, to teach them to read and write, in an indifferent manner. On this account, there is no Christian nation so little acquainted with the principles of religion, or in which there are so few who can read or write.

A scheme has been lately formed to establish regular schools: where there is a scarcity of masters, this undoubtedly is the best plan to form them; but when an attempt was made to subject the schools of the German churches to the same regulations as those intended for others, there naturally arose a very great embarrassment. The German churches, which till then had enjoyed the privilege of maintaining private schools for children of their own persuasion, of inspecting them, and of appointing and paying the masters, saw themselves deprived of this right, by some disputes which the masters had with one another. In order to secure protection, they requested to be licensed, and to be put on the footing of regular schools. This was complied with; but government retained a power of inspecting them; and those who refused to submit to an examination were suppressed, notwithstanding all the remonstrances which were made on that subject by the heads of the church. In this manner, Catherine's school, in Wasiliotroff, was suspended; because the masters who retired,

retained their salaries, and there were no funds to procure others.

On the 14th of June, I assisted at the last assembly of Catherine's German school. The children were first examined in reading, writing, accounts, history, geography, religion, and morality; after which their pastor Groot, as president, delivered an oration, in which he expressed his sorrow at the dissolution of a seminary, which had educated a number of good citizens to the empire. The masters then spoke in their turn, and took leave of their pupils, one of whom, in the name of his school-fellows, thanked the masters for their attention, and for the care which they had bestowed upon their education. Such was the end of this seminary.

The Royal Academy of Sciences at Peterburgh is the most important establishment for the advancement of science in Russia. Amongst the number of its members are a great many learned men, of the first distinction; and its memoirs, which are published every year, greatly contribute to the enlargement of knowledge. Old Prince Rosamofsky is president of it. Although he gives himself very little trouble concerning it; and though he neither attends any of the meetings, nor causes a report to be made to him of its affairs, he never would resign the presidency. The Princess Dashkow, who is directress of it, is, on the contrary, very active, and bestows great attention upon every thing which concerns its advancement. She appeared at court as Countess of Woronzow, under the reign of Elizabeth, and married Prince Dashkow, who was in the military service. She appears to have had a great share in the revolution of 1762, by her influence over the regiments of guards, who brought it about; and, for this reason, the Empress made her a lady of the bed-chamber, and honored her with the order of Catherine. Having, however, met with some cause of discontent, she withdrew herself from court for some years, during

during which time she visited several foreign countries, and among others England. Upon her return, the Empress appointed her Directress of the Academy. She enjoys the esteem and confidence of Catherine, and has great interest at court on her own account, as well as by her brothers, and numerous family.

Born with a great mind, she has still farther enlarged it, by her intercourse with the court of Petersburg; by travelling into foreign countries; and by the variety of fortune which she has experienced. She speaks French very fluently, and German, though not with so much facility; open, and of an easy address, she possesses that natural politeness, and easy air, which can be acquired only by mixing with the gay world, and by travel. Judging very freely, and with equal liveliness and sagacity, of every thing that passes in Russia, she at present chooses to live at a distance from court, where she never appears, but upon birth days, and other great solemnities. Her whole employment consists in useful and commendable pursuits of different kinds. Sometimes she amuses herself with building a pleasure-house in a garden, laid out in the English style; the simplicity and elegance of which, serve as a model of good taste to the nobility of Petersburg. Sometimes she carries on a literary correspondence with people of rank and learning, whom she knew in the course of her travels; particularly in England, a country to which she is extremely partial: and sometimes, by herself, she cultivates the sciences, of which she is a distinguished patroness. The service she has done them will render her name immortal. The Russian Academy, founded for the purpose of cultivating the Russian language and history, owes its establishment to her; and it was she who obtained from the Empress a fund sufficient for its support, and an apartment in the garden of Ash, at present the new botanical garden, where the members

hold their meetings, and where Professor Lepechin resides in quality of secretary.

The Academy of Sciences is also under very great obligations to the Princess Dashkoff. She procured for it the new botanical garden, much superior to the old one, both on account of its extent and situation. The new belonged to Baron Ash, from whom the Empress made a purchase of it, on the request of the Princess, to present it to the Academy of Sciences, opposite to which the Russian Academy have their hotel. This spot of ground is as yet a kitchen-garden; it was only last spring that the workmen were to begin to construct green-houses, with lodgings for the gardeners. She also prevailed upon the Empress to grant the sum of twenty thousand roubles yearly, for erecting a new edifice, for the use of the Academy; an advantage which the former directors availed themselves of, without much forwarding the work; but the Princess at present inspects it with the minutest attention, and every week takes care to visit all the works. She has likewise persuaded the Empress to purchase the cabinet of minerals which belonged to the Vice-president of the mines of Narthof, and to give it to the Academy. It is not yet entirely arranged, so that it would be difficult for a traveller to form any opinion of it. The Princess has enriched the collection of the Academy with several pieces of her own.

She is, above all, particularly attentive to manage the funds of the Academy with great fidelity, and in such a manner, as may be most advantageous, especially as they were in a bad state, owing either to the negligence or dishonesty of the former director, Demaschnew. He had appropriated to his own use, many of the books purchased by the Academy, and bought others of no value, as well as engravings and prints; and as he never gave in any account, the Academy found themselves indebted

in the sum of thirty thousand roubles *. In the beginning of her direction, the Princess received an order from the Empress, to recover the books which had been carried away, among which was found that beautiful collection of drawings purchased at Fothergill's sale; and to burn all scandalous books, and such as had a pernicious tendency. By the prudent economy of the Princess, the debts have not only been paid, but a capital of thirty thousand roubles has been lodged in the bank, the annual interest of which serves to pay the salaries of four learned Russians, who give public lessons in natural history, chemistry, mathematics, and natural philosophy. We can scarcely imagine with what difficulty four persons were procured, to take upon them the office of giving these lessons. It was found necessary to issue an order for compelling them. Some considered the employment as too laborious; others thought it below their dignity. This however is the surest and easiest method of extending the progress of useful knowledge; if the professors are well chosen, and if they faithfully discharge their duty.

So great is her respect for the sciences, and the academy, that she never suffers any of its members, who have occasion for an audience, to wait a moment. To every thing she replies with clearness and precision; and the most absolute confidence may be reposed on her word. She neither loves the noisy pleasures of the court, nor the dissimulation of courtiers; her opinion on every object is well known. She has not been exempt from discontent, and even contradiction, on the part of the Academy. Party spirit, envy, and self-love prevail too much among men of letters, and the Princess could not reward one without exciting the jealousy of the rest. In order, therefore, that she may not be exposed to the disagreeableness of petty disputes, she no

longer attends the meetings of the Academy. Pallas has contradicted her with much warmth. When the Emperor and the King of Sweden came to Petersburg, they testified a particular esteem for this learned man. Since that time, the Princess, who has paid more attention to his merit, has never ceased to give him the most distinguishing proofs of her friendship. The portrait of the Princess is now engraving at Petersburg.

The number of academicians, natives of the country, is not limited. Since the absence of Ferber, there have been only sixteen, Russians, Germans, and assistants; each has a salary of one thousand roubles †, and some of them besides are allowed fire and lodging. Soon after the foundation of the Academy, this emolument was sufficient to entice foreigners to Russia; but, on account of the dearth of provisions, and the expence of living in the capital, some learned men have thought this income too scanty, and refused to go to Petersburg when invited, while others, to augment it, have had recourse to other employments; either to teach different sciences to the military cadets; to be tutors to the children of the nobility and people of fortune; or to become secretaries to some public body. By these means they double their revenue; but they are diverted from the object to which their attention ought principally to be directed, as members of the Academy.

The duty of members, who are natives of Russia, consists in attending twice every week in the public hall of the Academy, where they employ themselves in the sciences, and other affairs; but they often neglect to go thither, under pretence of there being nothing to do. Each is obliged to furnish annually two memoirs, worthy of being placed among those of the Academy. Strangers are not permitted to assist at the weekly assemblies.

* Above 6000*l.* sterling;

† About 200*l.* sterling.

The number of ordinary foreign members is fixed at ten; however, there are only five at present, each of whom receives an annual pension of two hundred roubles, and is obliged to send to the Academy two memoirs, worthy of being printed in their transactions.

The number of honorary members is very great; for this reason, no more can be received, but upon a vacancy by death.

I have had the advantage of being acquainted with all the Germans in the Academy. Their merit is already well known. I should have been very happy to have met my friend Ferber there; but, on account of some disagreement, he requested leave to retire, and had quitted Petersburg. The climate did not agree with his constitution; his health suffered from it; and he allowed himself to be too much affected by trifles. The Princess, however, patronized him in a very particular manner; she had introduced him to the Empress, and had procured for him, from the Duke of Courland, a present of eighteen hundred ducats; he was, besides, better lodged, and received more salary than the rest.

Of the Russian academicians I was acquainted with Lepechin only, who has acquired much reputation by his travels, and who resides at present in the botanical garden.

The Academy of Sciences is only a plain society of learned men. Several people have wished that its members had been obliged to give public lessons in the Russian language; but the utility of these lessons was not so sufficiently clear. Part of the members are not accustomed to it, and would not perform such a business with pleasure. A taste for the sciences is not yet sufficiently prevalent at Petersburg, where there are so many enticements to dissipation. Curiosity at first might draw together a few hearers; but such lessons would soon be abandoned.

The revenues of the Academy consist of 53,000 roubles, granted yearly

by government, and 20,000 arising from its economical establishments, such as Russian and German Almanacks, Gazettes, &c. These revenues managed with proper economy, are not only sufficient for the ordinary expences, but there remains also an yearly surplus. The Academy possesses two considerable buildings, which stand near one another in Wafiliofrof, exactly opposite the winter palace; another still larger, has been built for them in the neighborhood. The library, and the different collections are placed in the fore part, the hind part is occupied by the mathematical and philosophical instruments, the large room, and the printing-office. Above the first of these edifices, rises a large turret, which serves as an observatory, and is furnished with telescopes, and other astronomical apparatus. The library, which contains a vast number of volumes, is large and beautiful; but the gallery which runs round it, at about half its height, makes it appear less numerous than it in reality is. Among a great variety of works to be seen there, the most remarkable is a curious collection of original drawings of plants, animals, and insects, done by eminent masters. Peter the First purchased the collection of Merian, and the present Empress that of Dr. Forthgill for two thousand pounds sterling, and made a present of it to the Academy. The figures are exceedingly beautiful, having been executed with the utmost exactness by Miller, Ehrer, Harris, Miss Lee, and other artists of equal merit.

The library of Radzivil, transported from Poland to Petersburg during the last war, occupies one whole apartment. Though very numerous, it contains nothing particularly remarkable or interesting. The support of the library may cost about two or three thousand roubles per annum.

The cabinet of natural history is furnished with quadrupeds and Russian birds, stuffed or dried, and in excellent preservation; some of which, at present, are considered as great rarities; such as the white bear of the frozen

frozen seas; the wild horse of Pallas; the sea otter of Kamshatka, found by Cook; the sable with all its varieties; the small greyhound, and many others. The phials filled with spirit of wine, contain monsters and fetuses, collected by Ruysch; a multitude of shells, lizards, serpents, and fishes complete the collection. With regard to those substances preserved in spirits, there are few cabinets in which they are to be found so perfect; the spirit of wine having been chosen exceedingly pure and clear. The insects are ranged under glasses, but they are the worst preserved part of the cabinet; the sun has whitened them so much, that one can scarcely distinguish their natural colors; the butterflies have suffered most, every part of them which was blue having become entirely white. In collections of this kind, nothing spoils sooner than insects. Those even which travellers have brought from different parts of the Russian empire, are kept in wretched wooden boxes and drawers, from which they are stolen; or in which they are soon destroyed; so that scarcely the least vestige of them remains. The minerals are still in disorder; they were formerly divided into different collections, of which each had a catalogue, according as Lehmann had disposed them: the specimens were all foreign. Ferber made one collection of the whole, which he arranged according to the disposition of Bergmann; however, he confined himself to foreign minerals, not being able to comprehend those of the country, because the catalogue was written in the Russian language, which he did not understand, and it would have been necessary to translate it, on account of the names and the notes.— He put off the arrangement of them from day to day, until his departure; for this reason it has been recommended to Major Renovanz, professor Georgi, and their assistant Sujef, to conform in the whole arrangement to the mineralogy of Wallerius; they have just now commenced their labor, and it will be several years before they

can finish it; because, during the winter, which is very long and severe in this climate, they are under the necessity of suspending their work. One cannot say, whether among the indigenous minerals there may not be some very curious, because, they are as yet heaped one upon another in confusion, together with large bones dug from the earth, of which there are a great number.

There are to be seen here also, dresses according to the fashion of various nations; such as China, Otaheite, and others; besides those of different people, subjects of the Russian empire, and a great number of idols of various shapes, and made of different substances; rings, vases of gold and silver, and pieces of coin which have been found in the earth.

In the farthest apartment stands the figure of Peter the Great in wax; he is seated upon a throne, and appears in the same dress which he wore on his wedding-day. In a drawer on one side of him, is his uniform, with his night cap, and his hat which was pierced through by a bullet at the battle of Pultawa. Several works which he made are also shewn near him, together with a representation of his conquests in bronze. A large nail driven into the door marks his stature, which appears to have been considerable.

A small chest, placed against the wall, contains the Russian code of laws, written by the hand of the Empress herself, in which there appear many marks of erasures, interlineations, and corrections, which she has made at different times.

The hall where the members of the academy meet, is in the second edifice. A white marble bust of the late Professor Euler has been erected here, as a monument of the services which that illustrious and learned man rendered to the academy and to mankind. The literary world has produced few phenomena equally great: little attention was, however, paid to him at Peterburgh, until the King of France wished to reward him for the services

he had done by his improvements in the construction of vessels.

The same edifice contains the philosophical instruments, globes, air pumps, electrical machines, a machine invented by Professor Frankenstein, for pronouncing the five vowels, and the large globe of Gottorf. Here also are the printing-office and the library. In the printing-office are printed almanacks, gazettes, the works of the different members of the academy, the memoirs which have competed for its prizes, and in the library they are sold. No other works are printed here. The princess has greatly lessened the price of the memoirs of the academy, in order to encrease their sale. On account of their high price before this diminution, very few of them were sold.

According to the original establishment of Peter the Great, these collections were shewn every day gratis to those who were desirous of seeing them; refreshments were even offered them, in order that knowledge and the sciences might be diffused throughout the nation; but for a long time they have been shewn only on certain days of the year, which are announced in the public papers, and none but genteel people are admitted.

The botanical garden is also in Wasiliofrof, though at a considerable distance from the hotel of the academy. It is small, damp, and cold, consequently very improper for the purpose to which it is destined, especially in a climate naturally moist and severe. The plants either degenerate or soon die. It appears that the inspectors and gardeners do not discharge their duty with sufficient attention and zeal: the hot beds are employed for cultivating ananas, fallads, different kinds of pulse, and even turnips and cabbages. Scarcely any of those numerous plants brought from Siberia, and other provinces of the Russian empire, are now to be seen, as they were entirely abandoned and neglected. The *saxifraga crassifolia*, with its large strong roots, grows among weeds and noxious herbs. The green houses are too confined, and not proportioned to the

severity of the climate, and the duration of the winter; it is not, therefore, astonishing, that rare and curious plants do not thrive in them. The garden of Baron Alth, which the Empress presented to the Academy, is extensive, better situated, more elevated, and much drier: workmen are now employed in laying it out. As Professor Lepechin has been invited thither to superintend the plants, they will, no doubt, soon be in a flourishing condition.

Near the old botanical garden is the chemical laboratory, under the inspection of Professor Georgi and Mr. Sujef, who reside in the neighbourhood. It is small, but well lighted, and excellently disposed; its situation, however, must render it damp, consequently cold, and of little use in winter. We may also consider, as establishments formed in favor of the sciences, the different bodies of cadets, where young people are educated for certain professions at the expence of government. They are more necessary in Russia than in any other country, since there is no public education here, and because private instruction is very expensive.

There are four bodies of cadets, the first for the land service, the second for the artillery, another for the marine, and the last for the mines; they are all kept apart from one another, and have each a particular establishment, as well as destination. The cadets for land service, to the number of six hundred, reside in Wasiliofrof, in a large hotel, opposite the German church of St. Catherine. The revenue of this establishment was only 167,000 roubles; as it was much indebted, the Empress judged it insufficient, and raised it to the sum of 200,000.

The artillery cadets have a hotel ornamented with a beautiful garden, at one of the corners of the city. There are about four hundred and fifty of them, of whom three hundred and fifty are nobility, and the rest the sons of citizens, all under the inspection of a general of artillery, a director, who super-

superintends their education, and several masters. On ordinary days they are plainly dressed in grey; they wear their red uniform, mixed with blue and white, only on Sundays, and certain public occasions. They make a handsome appearance, and receive an excellent military education. On the 25th of June, they set out for a camp, which had been prepared for them in the country, where they remained under tents for some weeks, which they spent very agreeably in the exercises of their profession.

The marine cadets reside at Cronstadt; but Russia is not yet a maritime power. The sea service is not much liked, and it is still less esteemed. The cadets, it is said, are very ill maintained, and worse taught. They are instructed in reading and writing, afterwards they are made to get by heart a Russian translation of Euclid, the demonstrations of which they repeat without understanding them, and then they are thought to be excellently qualified for becoming officers.

The cadets for the mines, who are under the inspection of Major Renovanz, have their hotel in Wasiliostrof, near the Neva. In number they are about an hundred; forty of whom are maintained entirely at the expence of Government, the rest must pay for their education, &c. which amounts to about an hundred roubles per annum. This seminary is the worst supported of the whole. In the beginning of its establishment, in the year 1772, it was obliged to be satisfied with three thousand roubles yearly, but these have been successively augmented to fifteen thousand. Children are admitted there from the age of five to fifteen; they receive an education suitable to their profession, which is a very important one, on account of the abundance of mines found in the Russian empire. They are taught the Russian, German, and French languages, and even to write; after which they go through a course of the mathematics, divided into several classes, and receive lessons in chemistry, natural philosophy, and particularly in mineralogy, the art

of smelting, assaying metals, &c. They have a small library, which contains only books relating to their profession, with a collection of indigenous minerals, a neat laboratory for experiments, with several philosophical and mathematical instruments, and a hall full of models, representing the different chambers of mines, and various machines, with the use of which they ought to be acquainted. Among others there is a model of the mine called the mine of the serpent *Schlangenburg*, which has furnished so many rich minerals; with all its chambers and buildings, a plan of which Major Renovanz has ordered to be engraved. Behind the building an artificial mine has been constructed, which consists of a mountain hollowed out, with all its chambers, passages, veins, and different beds.

Major Renovanz is an intelligent officer, very zealous for the honor of his profession. He is a Saxon by birth, and passed several years in the academy of mines at Freyberg, from which he went to Copenhagen, and thence to Petersburg, where he settled. He has visited most of the mines in Russia, and employed several years in examining their productions and construction. At present he is composing a description of them, ornamented with figures, which he has caused to be engraved, beginning with that of Kolivan. These cadets have a printing-office, where all their elementary books are printed. Petersburg has also its academy of arts, in a beautiful edifice built in an oblong form, and situated likewise in Wasiliostrof, near the Neva. The interior part of this building forms a spacious oval, or rotunda, in the middle of which stands a brazen figure of Hercules resting on his club. This vast court has four passages, above each of which is placed an inscription in the Russian language, corresponding to each of the four arts which are principally cultivated; viz. painting, sculpture, architecture, and education. The fine looks, and the neatness of the youth educated here, do much honor to their masters. The academy

academy is open to the public every year for eight days, following the festival of St. Peter and St. Paul; every body then may go and see the paintings, which are suspended in a variety of apartments. One of these paintings represents the Empress in the character of Minerva, encouraging the arts; the Italian who painted it seems to have succeeded very well. The half lengths of the Empress, Grand Duke, and Grand Dukes, are also very conspicuous here, as well as some pieces of eminent masters, such as Mengs, Tintoretto, and Rembrandt. The greater part of them, however, are only very indifferent copies, executed by the pupils in the academy. The engravings are still more wretched, even those which represent the royal family. There is not one good in the whole collection.

Another apartment contains the statues, among which there are some of value; another contains models, such as that of the edifice itself; and the machine employed to transport that immense stone which forms the base of the statue of Peter the First. The exhibition here is not a proof of the annual progress of the arts which the academy occasions in Russia. Every thing, even the works of foreigners, are admitted to fill up the apartments.

This academy, like the greater part of the Russian establishments, has much exterior splendor, and produces perhaps in reality little solid advantage. It ought undoubtedly to contribute towards forming the national taste, by exposing excellent models to the eyes of the public; but an exhibition of eight days is far from being sufficient for that purpose. — This establishment is too considerable for the present situation of Russia, where a taste for the arts is not sufficiently extended to employ many artists. Several on this account, when they quit the academy, find themselves reduced to the necessity of abandoning the profession, in which they have been educated at the expence of the state, and of procuring a subsistence in some other manner.

There are few private cabinets at Petersburg, if we consider its extent, as the sciences are not much cultivated among the great and rich. Those however which there are, afford much matter of curiosity for a stranger, on account of the variety of the productions of Russia, and of their great difference from those of Europe:— The following are those which appeared to me most worthy of notice.

First, That of Professor Pallas, the best selected and the richest of all. It was collected by this distinguished naturalist, in the course of his various travels through Russia, with much knowledge and taste. When he arrived at Petersburg, he devoted himself entirely to the sciences, and to his collections; living retired, frequenting little company, and seeming desirous by economy to acquire a small fortune, in order to live afterwards in his own country. At present, while he is attached to Petersburg by the ties of gratitude, interest, and the care of his family, he seems to have entirely renounced the idea of quitting Russia, and he participates in all the enjoyments and amusements of a large capital. He is seldom to be found at home, sometimes one engagement, and sometimes another, prevents him from shewing his complaisance, by opening his cabinet to the curious. It contains a great number of dried plants, which he collected in Holland, and different places, or obtained from other travellers. The minerals are above all very remarkable; they are for the most part those found in Siberia and Russia. He has some also from Hungary, and other countries, which he procured by the friendship of Born and Ferber. The mineral gold of Russia, is very singular; it purifies itself insensibly, so that there remains nothing but a simple quartz, light and porous, which is again filled in the mine with a hard black stony iron, which constitutes that marcasite from which gold is extracted. The silver mines are very beautiful, those especially that have no alloy; the silver, which is white and

pure, covers the stone-like flakes of snow. Those of copper are also very pretty.

In this collection there is neither tin, cobalt, nor quicksilver. No traces of tin have ever been perceived in Russia, and few of cobalt or quicksilver. On the contrary, transparent silver, or silver in the form of horn, is very abundant in the mines. Ancient Tartar coins have been dug up, the surfaces of which were changed into this horny kind of silver, easy to be cut, though the interior part retained all the usual properties of silver. The collection of insects is numerous; they have been almost all procured from the Russian provinces; few of them are foreign.

The Empress purchased this cabinet for the sum of 30,000 roubles, to place it in the Hermitage, in order that it might serve for the instruction of the Grand Duke's children. Mr. Pallas has it still in his house, as he has permission to retain it there as long as he may have occasion for it, to assist him in his works. It is a pity that a collection so well kept should be transported to court. The minerals may be preserved there; but the insects will soon be destroyed, in a place where they will be under the management of the nobility only.

Secondly, The cabinet of the Princess Dashkoff, which consists of minerals and shells, with other productions of nature and art, both foreign and indigenous. Some of the articles are extremely scarce and curious. The English minerals, and particularly the colored spars of Derbyshire, were collected by the Princess herself, during her residence in England. The greater part of the pieces are not yet unpacked. When Major Renouan

and Professor Georgi have arranged this cabinet, it will be one of the best in Peterburgh.

Thirdly, The cabinet of the aulic counsellor Boeher, director of the classes in the school of artillery cadets. It is very rich in insects, of which the owner procured great numbers, by an expedition which he set on foot for that purpose, along the banks of the Wolga. I was permitted to take a description of the new species, for my own use. I found there those small butterflies, from which the figures of Esfer have been copied. The resemblance is very striking; but the color of the insects has been greatly changed since he painted them.

When one has seen the cabinet of Pallas, that of Dr. Guthrie presents nothing to attract curiosity. This gentleman is a native of Scotland, and has apartments in the hotel of the cadets for land service, to whom he is physician. He is employed at present in writing a treatise upon the diseases peculiar to the climate of Russia. A dissertation of his, upon the antiscorbutic regimen of the Russians, has been published both in England and in France.

Counsellor Voelkner's cabinet of minerals is also celebrated. I did not see it, because it was packed up, in order to be transported to the hotel belonging to the cadets of the mines; to the inspection of whom Mr. Voelkner has just now been appointed.

The cabinet of Count Sproganow is rich and curious; it consists principally of indigenous minerals, and a collection of paintings and engravings, which are worthy the attention of connoisseurs.

ACCOUNT OF THE ELECTRICAL EEL, OR TORPEDO OF SURINAM. By WILLIAM BRYANT, Esquire.

FROM TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

SURINAM, a colony of South America belonging to the States of Holland, abounds with as many natural curiosities as any country in the world. But that which I look upon to be as surprising as any in it,

and which I believe has not yet been accurately described, is a fish of the species of eel, and is caught there in nets among other fish; generally in muddy rivers, and I believe is found in most of the neighbouring provinces.

In size and color it is not unlike a common eel of Europe or America; and in shape resembles it more, except that it is thicker in proportion to its length, and the head is more flat and not so pointed; but differs from them in this respect, that it comes to the surface to breathe in the air. It is called by the Dutch *Beave Aal*, and by the English inhabitants the *Numbing Eel*. As to the other qualities, of which I mean chiefly to take notice, and which I think are as different from the *Torpedo* of Europe as the fish is in shape, they are as follows:

On touching the fish as it lies in the water, in a tub provided for it, a sudden and violent shock is received, in all respects like that which is felt on touching the prime conductor, when charged with the electrical fluid from the globe; and, like that, chiefly affects the ends of the fingers and elbow. Gently holding the tail of the fish with one hand, and touching the head with the other, a very violent shock is felt in both elbows, and through the breast and shoulders. I at first imagined that the violence of the shock proceeded from both arms receiving it at the same time, and that the pain was no more than that of the two strokes added together; but I found myself mistaken. For upon seven persons joining hands, and the first taking hold of the tail, (which may with more ease be held than the head) and the seventh at the same time touching the head, we were all affected in both elbows, and that in the same manner as I remember to have been in the electrical experiment, when several persons take hold of the wire and the equilibrium is restored by the fluids passing through their bodies.

I find the shock may be received through metallic substances: On touching the fish with an old sword blade I was strongly affected. But arming it with sealing-wax, and taking hold of that part which was covered with it, the electrical fluid (I cannot help calling it so) would not pass. Neither has it any effect on the body when

touched with a glass bottle, sealing-wax, &c. Yet I cannot observe the least diminution of this quality by placing the tub which contains the fish on glass bottles; it continues the same in all respects. So that whether it has an unaccountable faculty of collecting a quantity of the fluid from the surrounding waters, or through the body of the person touching it, or has in its own body a large fund which it can discharge at pleasure, I am greatly at a loss to think or imagine.

Although it has no effect on the human body when touched with a piece of wood, or indeed any other substance not metallic; yet an accident discovered to me, that on some occasions the effect would be sensible through wood. For one morning while I was standing by, as a servant was emptying the tub, which he had lifted intirely from the ground, and was pouring off the water to renew it, and the fish left almost dry, the negro received so violent a shock as occasioned him to let the tub fall; and calling another to his assistance, I caused them both to lift the tub free from the ground, when pouring off the remains of the water, they both received smart shocks, and were obliged to desist from emptying the tub in that manner. This I afterwards tried myself, and received the like shock. This fish indeed was one of the largest I have seen, and but newly caught. For I observe that after being sometime confined in a tub, and wanting perhaps their natural food, they lose much of the strength of this extraordinary quality. I am sometimes apt to conjecture, that this animal has the power of communicating the stroke when, and with what degree of force it will; and that it serves it as a weapon of defence against its enemies. For I have often observed, that on first taking hold of it, the shock is tolerable; but as soon as it perceives itself the least confined, the shock is much more violent. This I experienced to my cost, as I one day took hold of it, about the middle of the fish. I lifted it partly out of the water,

water, when on a sudden, I received so smart a shock that it occasioned a strong contraction in the bending muscles of my fingers, and I could not immediately let it go; but endeavouring to disengage my hand, threw it on the ground; taking hold of it a second time, to return it into the tub, I was more strongly affected than at first, and that not only in my hands and arms, but throughout my whole body; the fore part of my head, and back part of my legs suffered principally; and in the same manner as on receiving a very smart shock from a highly charged phial in electrical experiments.

On observing that the sensation occasioned by the shock, as to the nature and degree of strength upon touching different parts of the fish, was different, I was at first inclined to think it might be owing to its hav-

ing an extraordinary faculty of containing more of the fluid in one part of its body than in another. The tail part, to above one third of its length, occasions rather a numbness and tingling, than pain, but on applying the end of the fingers to the back, head, and under part of its body, it causes a sharp pricking pain.

This may possibly be accounted for, by the difference in the texture of the surface of the skin, as the manner of the electrical fluid's coming from a glass tube is different when its surface is altered by being rubbed with different substances, as has been lately taken notice of in a letter to the Royal Society.

These are the principal observations, the short time I resided at Surinam, allowed me an opportunity of making relating to this extraordinary animal.

SOME ACCOUNT OF JUSTUS, OR JOSSE VONDEL, THE CELEBRATED DRAMATIC AUTHOR OF THE DUTCH.

THIS poet, who is as much esteemed by the Dutch as Shakespeare is by the English, was born in the year 1587. His parents were Anabaptists; but he quitted that sect, and died in the bosom of the Catholick church in 1679, at the age of ninety-one. On his first entrance into life he kept a hosier's shop, the management of which he soon abandoned to his wife; in order that he might have full leisure to devote himself to poetry, which was his favorite pursuit.

It cannot be denied, that this poet possessed much genius; and we may even almost say of him, what La Motte Houdart said of Homer, "In whatever country he might have lived, he would have been a great poet." Had he early improved his talents by proper study, formed his taste from the grand models of antiquity, and flourished in an age in which poetry was cultivated, it is more than probable, say his zealous partizans, that his works would have

equalled, or even surpassed the most esteemed pieces, either ancient or modern. But unhappily he attempted to mount Parnassus, without the assistance of letters. He was nearly thirty years of age when he thought of learning Latin; soon after he applied himself to the French language; and he was thirty-six when he entered upon logick; a study more calculated at that time to corrupt and debase a natural genius, than to improve or polish it, and which, in a word, taught only the art of wrangling, with some method.

Vondel's forte seems to have been tragedy. Every one knows that a tragedy ought to be founded upon some great action, both interesting and probable, and that the art of employing it with success, consists in fixing the attention of the spectators, and exciting their passions in such a manner, as never to suffer them to become languid; and that, on the contrary, the poet must endeavour to increase them, until the unravelling of the plot seizes

upon the heart, at the very moment when it is most agitated.

Vondel's subjects, however, the greater part of which are taken from the holy scriptures, are not well chosen. If devotion directed him in his choice, it will no doubt be allowed that his ideas respecting this subject were not very just. People generally frequent the playhouse for the purpose of amusement, and not to hear sermons, which have so much the less effect from the mouth of a comedian, as there are few of that description who have ever been remarkable for a regard to religion. To this we may add, that the miracles and mysteries, which in the sacred authors we reverence and respect, when brought upon the theatre, and removed from their natural situation, can with difficulty be considered as objects capable of silencing infidelity, and of commanding belief.

We shall not speak here of a piece written by this author, entitled, "The Passage, or the Deliverance of the People of Israel," in which God himself is the principal personage. Though this work procured some reputation to its author, he was himself sensible of its futility, not to say absurdity.

The piece most generally approved is his "Brothers," which turns upon the manner in which King David, by the order of God, gave up the children of Saul to the Gibeonites, who afterwards hanged them. The reader will undoubtedly easily perceive, that such a subject is very ill suited to the stage; and that an action of this nature too much shocks received opinions, not to offend the spectators.

But what follows is still more curious. Can it be believed, that any one, possessed of even a moderate share of common sense, should have introduced on the stage the rebellion of the wicked angels, and their fall, occasioned by the passion which the devil conceived for Eve? This strange enterprise the celebrated Vondel how-

ever attempted, and he would have executed his design, had he not been prevented by the opposition of some divines, who rendered his heaven useless, which he had constructed at a great expence in the theatre at Amsterdam. This singular tragedy is to be found in the works of Vondel, under the title of *Lucifer*.

If this poet is not always happy in the choice of his subjects, we may also say, with great justice, that he seldom handles them in a proper manner. The excessive length of the scenes, and the choruses introduced between them, in the manner of the ancients, for the most part render the action equally tedious and languid. A very long act often contains two scenes only; and it is not uncommon to hear an actor repeat, without intermission, three or four hundred verses. The choruses are in the same manner lengthened out beyond measure; and, in general, are only a disgusting repetition of what has been sufficiently understood from the mouths of the performers. But let us examine, in a more particular manner, some of the pieces of this rival of Shakspeare.

That which is entitled "Jerusalem Destroyed," is not the least admired. We must not, however, imagine, that the destruction of this celebrated city is the subject of it; for after the beginning of the first act, the city is taken. The rest contain only real gasconades concerning the cruelty of the Romans, and long lamentations of the Jews, without exhibiting any particular action which ought to form the basis of the plot. After a soliloquy by Josephus one of the personages, Titus and Libanius arrive, only to make a pompous oration in praise of the conqueror; but what is very singular, it is not the centurion who assumes this office, it is Titus himself, who extols himself to the skies, in a rhapsody of more than an hundred verses, to which Libanius adds, comparing his general with Cæsar, to whom he very politely gives him the preference.

Among

Among the Jews whose lamentations are heard, the daughter of Sion holds a distinguished rank. This is a great Princess, escorted by a numerous train of her maids of honor, whose doleful plaints can make no impression upon the hard-hearted conqueror; and who, chagrined at length, by the inutility of her efforts, conceals herself in the ruins of the city, from which she is afterwards dragged by the soldiers to grace the triumph of the cruel Titus.

It may be easily perceived, that a tragedy of this kind cannot be susceptible of a proper denouement. It was necessary, however, to have one in the fifth act, and this circumstance was so much the more difficult to be accomplished, as the piece being destitute of action and intrigue, the author thought he could not extricate himself from such an embarrassment, but by means of one scene, which occupies this act entirely. Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem, who had fled, returns to his ruined diocese. A centurion who meets him takes him for a spy, but the prelate escapes the danger which threatens him, by declaring that he belongs to the peaceful sect of the Christians. An angel then comes to comfort him, who tells him that the destruction of the city had been long before predicted by the prophets, that God might be revenged on the Jews for their obstinacy. After this kind of sermon, which in the printed copy takes up nine large pages in quarto, the curtain drops, and the piece is finished.

We shall now proceed to another tragedy of the same author, more esteemed than the former, and indeed deserving to be so. The subject of it is the taking of Amsterdam, by the party of Florent V. Count of Holland, who was killed by Gerard de Valsen. The latter was nephew of Gisbert d'Amstel, Lord of that unhappy city, and he undertook this assassination because Count Florent had debauched his wife; on this account the city was involved in that vengeance which was exercised against the murderers. Amsterdam was taken almost in the same manner as Troy; the ene-

my pretending to retire, left behind them a large vessel, in which were concealed, under some faggots, the choicest of their troops; and the besieged having dragged this vessel into the city, fell an easy prey to their enemies.

This event having happened on Christmas evening, gave the author an excellent opportunity of indulging his fondness for introducing religious characters upon the stage. On this occasion, therefore, we find abundance of Bishops, Abbess, and Monks, who all speak in a manner suited to their profession.

The wife of Gisbert d'Amstel appears at her toilette, putting on her Sunday's dress, in order to go to church, and hymns are sung adapted to the celebration of so solemn a festival. The Bishop of Utrecht then thunders forth the song of Simeon in elegant Dutch verses.

The whole city almost, being consigned over to the fury of the enemy, who make the same havoc as the Greeks at Troy, Gisbert retiring into a fortified place, endeavours to get his wife and children put on board a ship, and to remove them from the sword of the conqueror. But this faithful spouse, resolved to share the fate of her husband, cannot be prevailed upon to desert him. Upon this a struggle of mutual tenderness arises, during which the children appear, and this scene becomes so pathetic, and continues so long, that to terminate it, the angel Raphael is deputed from heaven.

The angel commands them to take refuge in Prussia, where he promises them permanent felicity; and still farther, to console them for the misfortune of being compelled to abandon their country, he foretells to them the future greatness of Amsterdam, as well as the revolution in religion which would take place there, when it should be freed from the tyrannical yoke of the Spaniards; exhorting them, however, never to depart from the faith of their ancestors.

We must here observe to our readers, that Vondel being born an Anabaptist,
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had

had afterwards joined the Arminians; but that in the latter part of his life, having embraced the Roman Catholic religion, he often introduced the rites of that church upon the stage, so as to give great offence even to his warmest admirers.

During the time that the muse of Vondel was still Arminian, Maurice, Prince of Orange, furnished him with an excellent subject for a tragedy, by putting to death, on the scaffold, the grand pensioner Olden Barnevelt. To expose the atrociousness of this action to the public, the author wrote an allegorical piece, the subject of which, was the death of Palamedes, accused by Ulysses. The allegory, in general, is well preserved throughout this piece, except, that instead of giving the Grecian dress to the priests, they appear clothed like the Dutch ministers; and that Palamedes, though still young, is introduced as an old man, in order

that he might have a greater conformity to Olden Barnevelt.

This piece highly irritated Prince Maurice, the instigator of the murder. A process was even instituted against the author, but he got clear for a fine of three hundred florins.

Notwithstanding these remarks upon the principal dramatick works of Vondel, justice obliges us to confess, that though they are all deficient in plan, and offend against every rule of the drama, the fruits of his muse often exhibit so many marks of genius, joined to an imagination equally noble and poetic, that we can readily excuse him for falling so often into meanness or bombast. In a word, we may consider Vondel as one of those few writers who have been supported only by the originality of their genius; such as a Dante in Italy, a Shakespeare in England, and a Lopes de Vega in Spain.

A CURIOUS ANECDOTE RESPECTING CATHERINE, THE FIRST EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

IT is well known, that the birth of this celebrated woman was so obscure, that she did not even know who were the authors of her existence. She remembered only that she had a brother; but she was entirely ignorant where or in what situation he was. She at last became the wife of Peter the Great, after having for a long time been his mistress: but scarcely was she raised to this supreme dignity, when the following circumstance happened, which is so little known, that it will no doubt afford considerable entertainment to the curious reader.

An envoy extraordinary of the king of Poland to the court of Russia, returning to Dresden, stopped at an inn in Courland, where he was witness to a very interesting quarrel between one

of the hostlers and several of his comrades, who had got drunk. One of them swore loudly, and threatened in a low tone of voice, that with one single word he could make his antagonists repent of their insolence, as he had relations sufficiently powerful to punish them.

The minister, surprized at the decisive manner in which the domestick spoke, enquired his name, and past condition. He was told that he was an unfortunate Polander, named Charles Scorowski, whose father was supposed to have been a gentleman of Lithuania, who, dying early, had left his son in a miserable situation, together with a daughter, who had been for some time lost.

This answer excited the curiosity of the attentive minister, who ima-

* It is taken from a small work, printed in 1780, entitled, *Anecdotes Secrettes de la Cour de Czar Pierre-le-grand*, &c. translated from a Russian manuscript, and put, as it is said, into the hands of Voltaire, a little while before his death. It is so little known, that it was very difficult to procure a copy of it.

gined he perceived in the rustic features of this hostler some resemblance to those of Catherine; which, however, were so nobly formed, according to report, that no painter ever succeeded in copying the whole of her beautiful countenance.

This adventure, which might appear like a scene in a romance, were it not well authenticated, struck the minister of king Augustus so much, that he wrote an account of it, but in a jocular manner, to a friend who resided at the court of Russia.

It is not known how this letter fell into the hands of the Czar; but it is certain that he took a memorandum of it in a small book, which he always carried to assist his memory; and, in consequence, sent an order to Prince Repnin, governor of Riga, to discover Charles Scorowski; to entice him to Riga under some fair pretence; to seize him, without offering him the smallest insult; and to send him under a strong guard to the Chamber of Police, which he had ordered to revise a decree passed against this supposed prisoner.

This order, which appeared like an enigma to the governor, was punctually executed; Charles was brought prisoner, and the Chamber pretended to proceed against him, with all the forms of law, as against a quarreller, and a promoter of strife. He was afterwards sent to court, under a guard, with the supposed informations which substantiated the offence of which he had been accused.

Scorowski, under great apprehension for his fate, though he believed himself to be perfectly innocent, was presented to the judge, who lengthened out the process, in order that he might more easily examine the prisoner, whom he had orders to sound thoroughly. The better to succeed in this design, he kept spies around him, to catch any word that might escape from him; and private inquiries were made in Courland, which evidently proved, that this domestic

was the undoubted brother of the Empress Catharine.

When the Czar was convinced of the truth of this circumstance, he caused it to be intimated to Scorowski, that as the judge was not disposed to treat him with much indulgence, he could do nothing better than present a petition to his Sovereign, and that the means of doing this would be rendered easy to him, as not only access to the throne would be procured for him, but also protectors sufficiently powerful to ensure the success of his request. Peter, who had artfully contrived every thing for a scene as amusing to him, as it was humiliating for the pride and haughtiness which Catherine had for some time affected, sent word, that on a certain day, which he named, he would go incognito to dine with Chapelow, the steward of his household, and that after dinner he would give an audience to Scorowski.

This rustic did not appear intimidated at the Majesty of the monarch; he presented his petition very boldly, to which the Czar paid much less attention than he did to the examining of his figure and appearance.—The Czar asked him a number of questions, to which, notwithstanding his embarrassment, he replied with so much precision, that it evidently appeared that Catherine was his sister: Nevertheless, to remove all suspicion, the Czar left him abruptly, desiring him to return next morning at the same hour, and this order was accompanied with a promise, that in all probability he would have no cause to be displeased with the sentence which would be pronounced. The same evening the Czar, when supping with the Empress, said to her, “I dined to-day with Chapelow, and “made a most excellent repast; I “must carry you thither some day.” “Why not to-morrow?” replied she. “But,” rejoined the Czar, “we “must do as I did to-day; we must “surprise him at the very moment “when he is about to sit down to
“dinner,

"dinner, and we must pay our visit without any attendants." Next day, while Peter and Catherine were at dinner with Chapelow, Scorowski was introduced, who approached the Emperor with more timidity than he had shewn before; the Czar then affecting not to recollect the subject of his petition, repeated the questions of the preceding day, to which Scorowski returned the same answers.

This conference took place in the presence of Catherine, who, reclining on a sofa, listened with the greatest attention, and seemed not to lose a single word of what passed; every phrase of Scorowski struck her ears, and the Czar still more aroused her attention, by saying to her, with an air which seemed to indicate that he was not a little interested in the conversation, "Catherine attend to that; don't you comprehend?" Catherine upon this changed color, her voice faltered, and she could scarcely reply.

"But," added the Czar, with emotion, "if you don't comprehend, I do. In a word, this man is your brother."

"Come," said he to Charles, "kiss the border of her robe, and her hand, in quality of Empress; after which, embrace her as thy sister." Upon these words, Catherine grew pale; the power of speech entirely forsook her, and she remained for some time in a state of insensibility. As soon as she had recovered, Peter said in an affectionate tone, "What great harm then, is there in this adventure?—Well, I have found a brother-in-law.—If he is a man of merit, and has any abilities, we shall make something of him.—Console yourself, then, I beg of you; for I see nothing in all this

"that ought to give you a moment's uneasiness.—We are now informed of an affair which has cost us many enquiries.—Let us depart."

Catherine in rising up, requested permission to embrace her brother, and begged the Czar to continue his kindness both to him, and to her sister. It is not thoroughly known by what singular accident this Scorowski discovered that his sister had risen to the throne. The Emperor assigned him a house and a pension, and nothing more was required from him, than to keep himself as quiet as possible, and to enjoy his fortune in private. His sister, who, without doubt, was satisfied with the event, was not too much pleased, however, with the circumstances which had conducted to it; she felt herself internally humbled, by a discovery which pride and self-love would have wished to bring about in a manner less offensive to her delicacy.

This woman, who had risen from meanness and obscurity to the height of grandeur and glory, could not see without being hurt, an Emperor who was entirely devoted to her, made acquainted with the lowness of her extraction; but the attention of the Czar upon this occasion, seemed to be more engaged with the singularity of the adventure, than with the frivolous prejudices of female vanity. He was so little surprised to find himself the brother-in-law of a menial domestick, that he received him in the manner already mentioned, and his love for Catherine appeared not to have suffered the least diminution. The genius of this singular woman had so riveted his esteem, that nothing was capable of destroying it.

ON THE EXISTENCE OF A RACE OF GIANTS, CALLED PATAGONIANS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

THOUGH many and important discoveries have been made in the present century, and though much has been done towards acquiring a

more extensive knowledge of the earth, its productions, and various inhabitants, there are still some countries, into which European industry has never

ver

ver been able to penetrate, and which, on that account, are either not at all, or but very imperfectly known. — Among these we may reckon the southern extremity of the New Continent, respecting the inhabitants of which many disputes have arisen. Is there in reality such a strange people as the Patagonians? or, are we to consider the history of their existence in the same light as that of the fabulous giants of antiquity? Is Mr. Buffon mistaken, when he affirms that nature bestows upon all her productions in America, a less size than upon those of the Old Continent? These questions, interesting both for philosophy and history, cannot be decided but by facts, and unfortunately several travellers, who have visited those remote regions, have mingled so much of the marvellous in their relations, that one can with difficulty give credit to any thing that seems contrary to the common course of nature, unless attested by a multitude of proofs. In the number of these are those which concern the Patagonians. Their existence indeed presents nothing that implies any contradiction: if nature in one country has produced men much smaller than those who inhabit the middle of Europe, why may she not also have given existence to others of a gigantic stature? We see the same variety in her different productions, and climate seems to have as much influence upon their measure, as upon their quality. — Besides the popular opinion in America is, that at the bottom of the southern peninsula, there is a people, whose stature far exceeds the common size of man, and this opinion has been changed into an historical fact by a number of travellers, several of whom have indeed exaggerated, and some have spoken only from the accounts of others. — Mr. Odman, however, has lately published a dissertation upon this subject in the Stockholm Gazette, which may in some measure, enable us to determine what opinion we ought to form concerning those people.

Garcilasso speaks of giants who

inhabit these southern regions; their eyes, he says, are as large as an ordinary plate, and their stomachs are capable of digesting the food of fifty people, &c. Pigafetta, who accompanied Magellan, and who composed the journal of the discoveries of that celebrated navigator, relates, that in the Bay of St. Julian, under the 49th degree of southern latitude, a Patagonian came on board his vessel, whose stature was so great, that the Europeans scarcely reached to his girdle. At first he was very shy, and seemed afraid to approach; but the Europeans having imitated his gestures, which formed a kind of dance, and put ashes upon their heads, as he did, he assumed more courage, and partook of their food. However, having seen his own image in a mirror, he was so much frightened that he started backwards, and overturned four of the sailors. In another place, the same Pigafetta gives the height of seven feet to a Patagonian, but he insinuates that there were some of them smaller; for he relates, that six of these people one day came on board, the shortest of whom was about the size of our tallest Europeans, and the six together eat up provisions allotted for twenty men. He adds, that these Patagonians lived under tents, and fed upon flesh unsalted, and a root named *capas*. — Their hair was cut round, and several had the figure of a heart painted upon each cheek. The author of the relation supposes, that they were naturally jealous, because they sent away their wives, mounted on a kind of asses. Argenfola seems to allude to this narrative, when he affirms from report, that there came on board Magellan's ship, men who were ten feet and a half in height. All these facts, however, were not admitted until the English and Dutch navigators confirmed them, or at least, gave such conclusive testimony as seemed to leave no doubt concerning their truth.

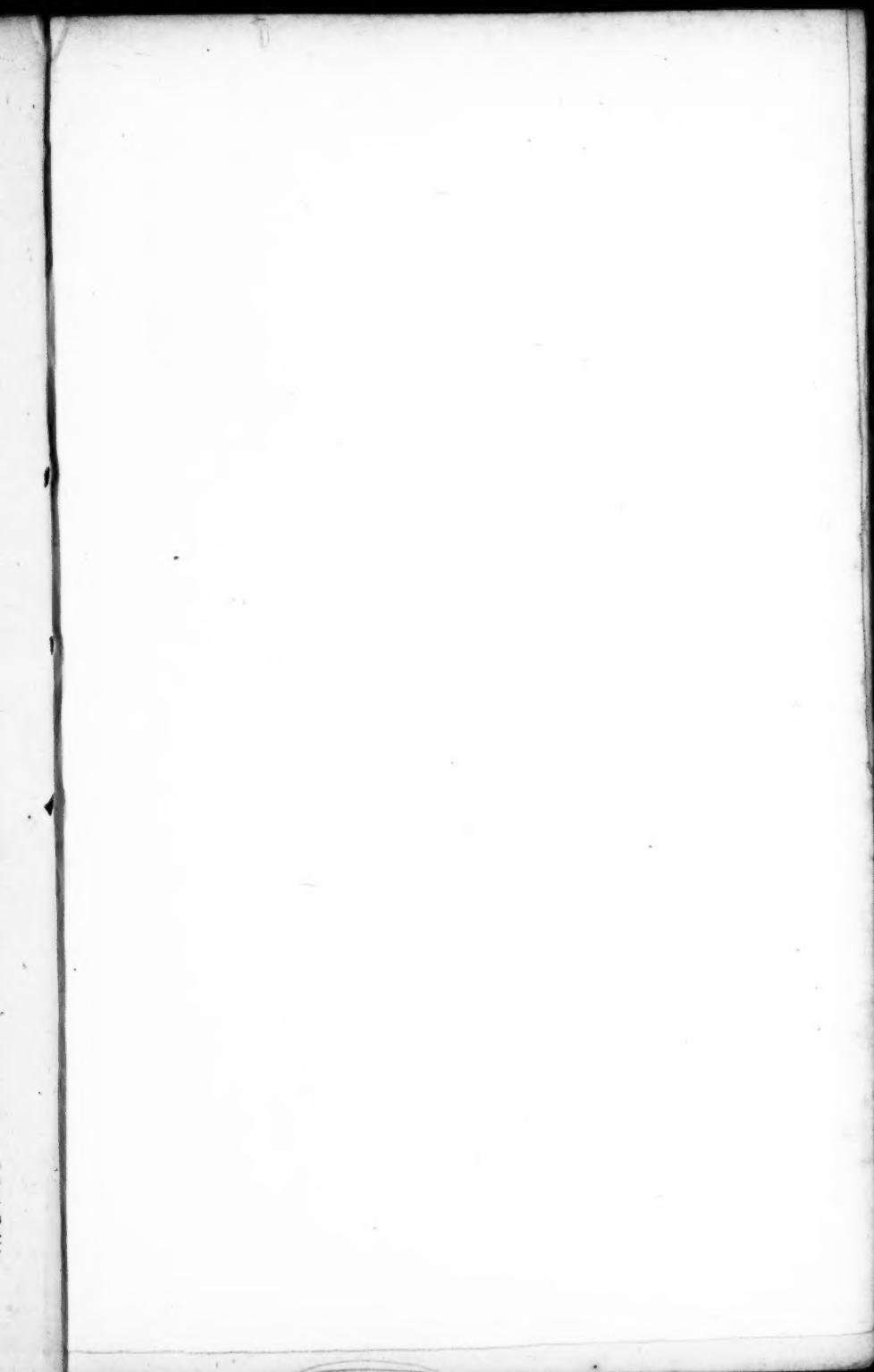
Drake saw in the same country, Patagonians with whom, when the Europeans were compared, they appeared only like Laplanders; and

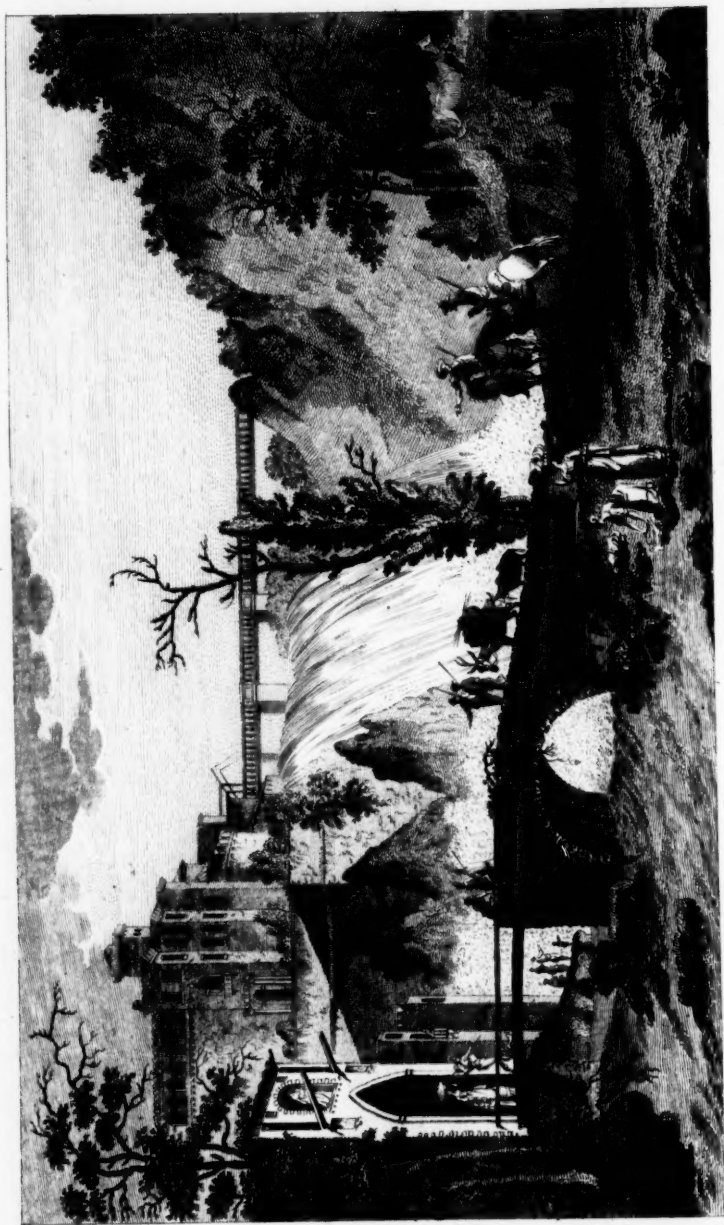
Caendish.

Cavendish pretends, that he saw the traces of feet four times as large as his own; he says farther, that some of his crew were in great danger of being killed, by enormous stones thrown at them by these giants. A Dutch navigator in 1599, met with men of an extraordinary size. Sebald de Vert informs us, that Patagonians ten or twelve feet in height, who were in a pirogua, fled when they heard the report of the Dutch muskets. Oliver Noort relates also that he saw giants in the same country. On the 2d of April, 1615, Spilbergen saw on Terra del Fuego, a man of a monstrous size; and on the 11th of December, of the same year, the companions of Schouten found on those coasts skeletons nine or ten feet long.

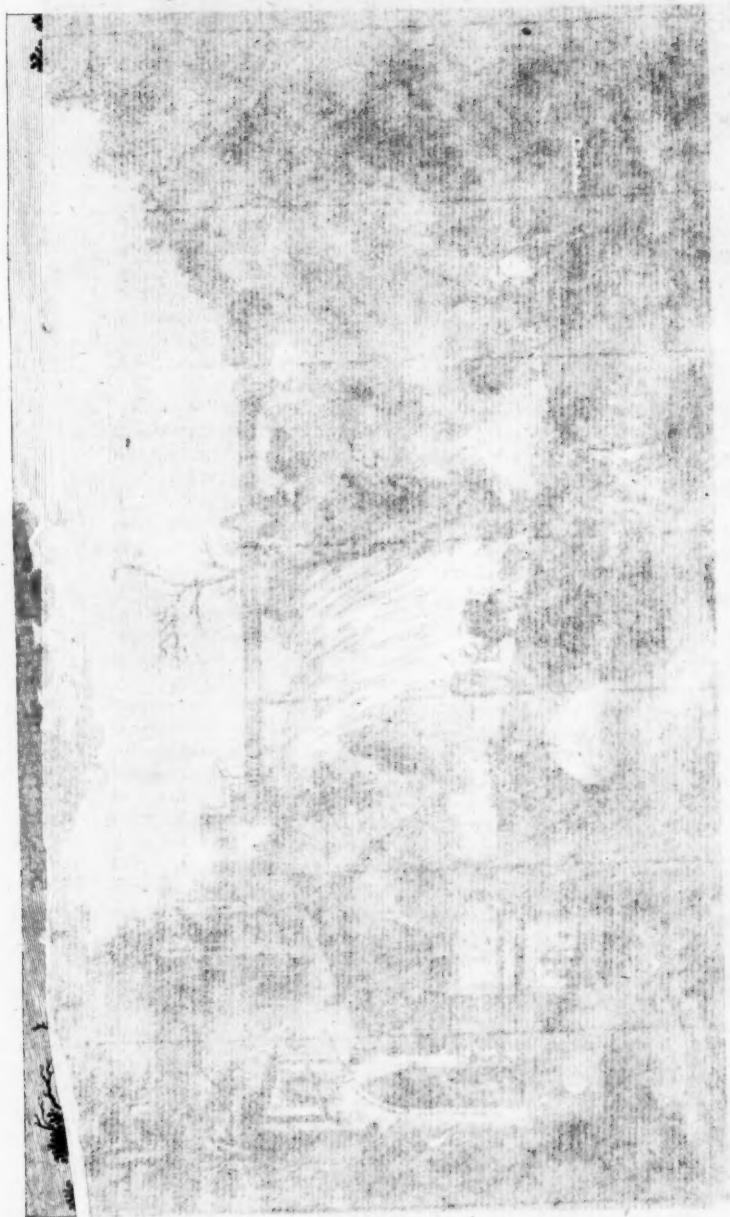
After this epocha, travellers are silent with respect to the Patagonians, and we find no account of them for seventy years; but in 1695, Carman and Harrington saw more than an hundred of them together, one of whom had a crown of feathers upon his head, and appeared to be a chief. Frezier speaks of the Patagonians, but he derived all his information from the Spaniards. Byron, however, formally attests their existence. This navigator tells us, that on the 22d of December, 1764, after having sailed for ten or twelve miles in the straits of Magellan, he saw upon the coast, men of an extraordinary bigness, who seemed by their gestures to indicate a desire that the English would land. Those of a moderate size appeared to be about eight feet in height, and the rest nine. They did not measure them, but guessed from their appearance. When sitting they were on a level with the Europeans who were standing. One of the officers, who was six feet in height, could scarcely, when standing on tiptoe, reach with his hand to the top of the head of one of these giants. The journal of the English Admiral, represents them as being well made, of a copper color, and dressed in skins which descended to their knees, and which were fastened round their necks with a thong of leather. The women

had a girdle, which kept this dress close to their bodies; all their faces were painted, and both sexes wore, by way of ornament, collars and bracelets. Their hair was black, and flowed over their shoulders. They appeared to be of a mild friendly disposition, and seemed to have a veneration for the sun. Several of them were on horseback, and they placed their feet upon the mane, that they might not drag upon the ground. To these observations we ought to join the relation of two Frenchmen, Duclos Guyot, and Giraudais, who attest in such express terms the existence of the Patagonians, that the truth of it must now be fully established. In a voyage which they made, in the year 1766, they saw, more than once, some men of this race of giants. These navigators have characterized them almost in the same words as Byron. They were received by them with friendship, and they were able to converse with them, because they spoke a few words of some of the languages of Europe, which proves that they had been before visited by European travellers. They called their chief *capitan*, and struck their breasts habitually, pronouncing the word *buenos*. They readily eat bread, but hog's lard, grease, and the fat of the sea calf, were their favorite morsels; they would never taste wine. These navigators thought they perceived from their signs, that they adored nature in general. They wore for clothing, the skins of otters and horses. Their arms consisted of slings, and they threw to a great distance stones of an oval figure, with much dexterity and address. The Patagonians have broad visages, flat noses, large mouths and jaw bones, and remarkably white teeth. They are very robust, generally corpulent and portly. According to the measure taken by these late navigators, it appears that the robes or cloaks of the smallest Patagonians, when put over the shoulders of a Frenchman five feet seven inches in height, dragged on the ground above a foot and a half, which gives seven feet, at the least, as the height of





A VIEW of the ISLE of SORA.



of these giants. Mr. Odman concludes his dissertation, with accounting for the silence of many navigators respecting these people: the reason he assigns is, that the Patagonians do not always inhabit the coasts, and retire

during a certain time of the year to the interior parts of the country. Navigators who passed the straits at this period, could not, therefore, properly ascertain their existence.

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE ISLE OF SORA.

THIS island, which is surrounded by two rivers, the Fibrenus* and the Liris, is about a league distant from the city Arpino, the ancient Arpinum, and in that part of Italy, formerly called the country of the Volsci. The view of it, given in the annexed plate, represents the palace of the Duke of Sora, Prince of Piombino, most delightfully situated at the point of the island, above two cascades, formed by these two rivers, one of which only is here seen. The Liris, so celebrated in several of the classical authors, for the gentleness of its course †, is now called the Garigliano, and discharges itself into the sea, near the small city of Mola di Gaïetta, on the road leading from Rome to Naples.

The view of this spot becomes highly interesting to the curious traveller, not only on account of its beautiful and romantic situation, but also, as being in the vicinity of the place where Cicero was born, and where he had a country-seat, which he preferred to all those which he possessed in other parts of Italy. Cicero's villa was not situated exactly in this spot, but at the distance of about

half a mile from it, in a place where there are at present a church, and a convent of Dominicans, called *Villa di San Domenico*, built mostly with the ruins and old materials of Cicero's house, as may still be seen, by the ancient ornaments carved out upon them in several places.

Cicero had a remarkable partiality for this beautiful retreat, because it was the place of his birth ‡, and on account of its retired situation, and natural beauties. His intimate friend Atticus was also fond of it, as appears by the following passage: "I love the island Fibrenus as well as you." Says Cicero to him; "it is my native country, and that of my brother." Every thing there recalls the remembrance of my ancestors; it was my father who rebuilt the villa, and he passed there the greater part of his life in study, and in that tranquillity which was necessary for his health. I find there a virtuous people, and rural sacrifices; and the natural beauties of the place, afford me more satisfaction and pleasure than gold or marble—than aqueducts, and the most magnificent palaces." CICERO DE LEG.

* At qui Fibreno miscentem flumina Lirim
Sulphureum, tacitisque vadis ad littora lapsam
Accolit Arpinas. SIL. IT. B. 8.

† ——— Rura quæ Liris quietâ
Mordet aquâ, taciturnus amnis. HORAT. L. i. Od. 30.
Liris ——— qui fonte quieto
Disimulat cursum, et nullo mutabilis imbre
Perfringit tacitas gemmanti gurgite ripas. SIL. IT. B. 4.

‡ Juvenal, from this circumstance, calls him *novus Arpinas*, by way of derision.
Hic novus Arpinas ignobilis, et modo Romæ
Municipalis eques, galeatum ponit ubique
Prædium attonitis, et in omni gente laborat. JUV. S. 8.

Martial, from the same circumstance of his being born in the neighbourhood of Arpinum, calls his writings *Arpinæ chartæ*.

O N S E A - W A T E R.

FROM DR. FOTHERGILL'S ENQUIRY CONCERNING CHELTEN-
HAM SPA, AND OTHER WATERS—JUST PUBLISHED.

THE present RAGE for Sea-Water might induce foreigners to inquire seriously, whether canine madness be not epidemic in England during the summer months—or whether British constitutions, like a barrel of herrings, really required to be thus pickled and salted, to make them hold out during the remainder of the year.

To offer any grave remonstrance on this head to those very fashionable people who lead the *ton*, and resolve to go any length in modish customs, however preposterous, rather than be thought *unfashionable*, would, I am sensible, be mere loss of time. To others, who are not yet quite so far gone in this epidemic phrensy, I would just only beg leave to hint, that this *fashionable* remedy, though excellent in its kind, is by no means a matter of *indifference*; and that the abuse of sea-water and sea-bathing, however *fashionable*, may, nevertheless, sometimes prove highly detrimental. That instances are not wanting where Rheumatisms have, by such an abuse, been unhappily converted into palsies, and palsies into apoplexies. Moreover, that the peculiar sickness produced by sea-water, accompanied with enormous vomiting, proceeds from the acrimony and bitterness of the marine magnesia, and putrid animal substances, which particularly abound near the *surface*.—And finally, that these nauseous ingredients are not to be found at all, or but very little, in sea-water taken up at the *depth* of sixty fathom; as appears evident from the experiments of that accurate chemist Sir T. Bergman. Here the water, he informs us, had no bad smell; the taste, though intensely salt, was by *no* means nauseous, like that which was got at the *surface*.

The reason of this difference, probably is, that the immense quantity of fish, and other animals which die in the ocean, are gradually carried up to the surface, and there, by the assistance of the air, are destroyed by putrefaction; which process is greatly assisted by the salt which at the surface is present precisely in the quantity necessary to promote that operation.

On analysing the water taken up at the above depth, he obtained, from a measure containing about three English pints,

Ounces. Grains.

Of common salt	-	2	433
Marine magnesia	-	o	380
Selenite	-	o	45*

Sea-water has been generally observed to contain more common salt in *hot*, than in *cold* climates, and the quantity to vary in different seas, according to the greater or less evaporation, or accession of fresh water, from about 1-50th to 1-20th of the weight of the water. Thus the Baltic sea is very weakly impregnated; the English, and German, more strongly; the Mediterranean, still more; and the Mosambique much saltier even than this.†

The saline ingredients are found in different quantities and proportions, but the quantity of *common salt* is always greater than that of any other, amounting on an average to the proportion of water, as 3 or 4 to 100; so that the strongest sea-water is far below the point of saturation; water being capable of dissolving nearly a fourth part of its weight of common salt.

Count Marfigli, after a long course of experiments, concludes, that in order to shew the different nature of sea-water, in various places, three liquors *alone* are necessary to be carried

Bergman's Chem. Ed. vol. i. p. 230.

† Mem. de l'Acad. Par. 1741.

abroad as very sufficient for that purpose, viz.

1. A strong infusion, or tincture of mallow flowers.
2. Spirit of sal ammoniac.
3. Oil of tartar per deliquium.

The first communicates to sea-water a greenish yellow; the spirit of sal ammoniac renders it turbid, and produces a slow precipitation; oil of tartar occasions the same change, but far more suddenly. By attentively marking these changes, and tinges of color, and noting the quantity of matter precipitated, he was enabled (as he imagined) to ascertain the strength of the impregnation of sea-water, taken up at different places, and at various depths, and also to determine the purity of sea-water distilled, or sweetened by other methods. On pure distilled water, no change was produced; the less pure, the more visible the changes of color, and quantity of precipitate.

Three yet more *exquisite* tests of the presence of marine salts with alkaline or earthy bases might, however, have been added by the noble Count; such are, I presume, with deference to his superior judgment—a solution of *silver* in the *nitrous acid*—*Barytes Salita*—and *acid of sugar*. The *first* detects the smallest vestige of *marine acid*; the *second* of *vitriolic*; and the *third*, of *earth or lime*; and are so far likewise applicable towards ascertaining these principles in *all* other waters, and that with superior accuracy; though still by no means sufficient, like those of Count Marfigli, to supersede the use of *all* other precipitants. For the waters of the ocean may be considered as containing a general assemblage of almost all the bodies in nature, that are either capable of being suspended or dissolved in an aqueous menstruum.

As the impregnation has been found to differ so widely in different places, and at different depths, there must be many other substances contained in it, besides those obtained by Bergman from a purer kind of sea-water, taken up at sixty fathom. Both the superior and inferior strata, comprehending a

vast body of water, remain yet to be further explored.

The aerial and sulphureous qualities, together with the impregnations arising from the exuviae of decayed animal and vegetable productions, must therefore be referred to those who may incline to favor the learned world with (what is much wanted) an IMPROVED ANALYSIS of sea-water.

To render sea-water fit for mariners in long voyages, is an object of the highest moment. It has long excited the attention of chemists, and also of the British Parliament, and for which the latter have awarded very liberal premiums. Various methods have been proposed, but that by simple distillation of sea-water *alone* has at length been found sufficient, and has attained a great degree of perfection, both in France and England.

Dr. Irving, by a very simple contrivance, for which he obtained a parliamentary reward of 5000l. presents us with the following improvements:

To the lid of the common kettle for boiling provisions aboard a ship, he has adapted a metallic tube. The fresh vapor which arises from boiling sea-water, passes through this tube into a hoghead, which serves as a receiver. In order to condense the vapor, the tube is kept cool, by constantly mopping it with cold sea-water. It appears, that eighty gallons of sea-water, by this method, yielded twenty-five gallons per hour of fresh water, well tasted, and of less specific gravity than the best spring water in the neighbourhood. The officers, who were present, concluded that five hundred gallons of fresh water might thus be obtained with the same quantity of fuel, in proportion to the time, as is required in the ordinary business of the ship. As the ship's kettle is divided in the middle by a partition, one of these parts being only in use at certain times, the other contains water to preserve its bottom. Dr. Irving has availed himself of this circumstance, and by filling the spare part of the copper with sea-water, and sitting on the tube, draws off sixty gallons of fresh

fresh water during the boiling of the provisions, without loss of time, or any additional fuel. ‡

It has been long known, though lately announced as a new discovery, that by *freezing*, the ice of sea-water is divested of its saltness, and when thawed, yields *fresh* water. For Bartholin, in his work concerning the use of snow, (published many years ago) relates this circumstance, which soon became a matter of such public notoriety, that the thawed ice of sea-water was afterwards used at Amsterdam for brewing.

Captain Cook, in a late voyage round the world, was fortunately supplied with fresh water from melting the ice found floating in the sea; and this water, our celebrated circumnavigator assures us, was not only fresh, but soft and *wholesome*.

This may prove an useful hint to those who undertake long voyages towards either of the poles, especially when they begin to experience a scarcity of fresh water amidst frozen seas. But whether fresh water be thus

obtained from dissolved ice of sea, fresh river water, or by a distillation of sea-water, it is quite destitute of air, and in an unnatural state; and therefore, notwithstanding the opinion of the great voyager, may be presumed not very *wholesome*. This, however, may be remedied, by exposing the water for some time in open vessels, that it may imbibe its proper quantity of air from the atmosphere. Or what, I conceive, would be an additional improvement, it might be impregnated with the aerial acid, by a suitable contrivance, as lately invented by the ingenious Mr. Henry, of Manchester, for impregnating the water of a ship. This would impart to the water the briskness of fresh-water, and at the same time render it a preservative, perhaps a *remedy*, against the ravages of the scurvy, and putrid fevers, especially as the antiseptic virtues of the aerial acid are now generally acknowledged. To this acid, chiefly, are the antiseptic and antifeorbatic effects of cyder, perry, and spruce-beer, to be attributed.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE VARNISH TREE.

AN opinion long prevailed in Europe, that the celebrated varnish of the Chinese was only a particular composition, which these people had the art of making. It is now known, that they are indebted to nature and their climate only, for this precious liquor, which gives so much lustre and beauty to many of their manufactures. The Chinese varnish is indeed nothing else than a reddish gum which distils from certain trees called *tsi-chu*. These trees grow in the provinces of *Kiang-si* and *Se-tchuen*; but those which are found in the territories of *Can-tcheou*, one of the most southerly cities of *Kiang-si*, produce the most valuable varnish.

We are assured, that the *tsi-chu*, the bark and leaves of which have great resemblance to those of the ash, bears

neither fruit nor flowers. It seldom exceeds fifteen feet in height; and the circumference of its trunk, when largest, is about two feet, or two feet and a half. The Chinese take the following method of propagating this tree.—In spring, they choose a vigorous shoot, about a foot in length, which proceeds immediately from the trunk, and coat over the lower part, by which it adheres to the tree, with a kind of yellow earth, at least three inches in thickness. This coat is carefully covered with a mat, to defend it from rain and the injuries of the air. Towards the autumnal equinox, they detach a little of the earth, to observe in what condition the small roots are, which begin to spring forth from the shoot. If they find that the filaments which compose them, are of a reddish

* See Voyage towards the North Pole, Appendix, p. 205.

color, they judge it is time to make an amputation; but they defer it, if the roots are white, because this color shews that they are yet too tender. They then close up the coat again, and wait till the spring following. When the shoot is separated from the trunk of the tree, it is put into the earth; but, in whatever season it is planted, whether in spring or autumn, great care must be taken, to put plenty of cinders into the hole prepared for it; without this precaution, the ants would destroy the yet tender roots, or, at least, deprive them of all their moisture, and cause them to decay.

The Chinese do not procure varnish from the *shi-chu* until its trunk is nearly five inches in diameter, which size it seldom attains to before seven or eight years. Varnish extracted from a tree smaller, or of less age, would not have the same body and splendor. This liquor distills only in the night time, and during the summer season; it does not flow in winter; and the varnish produced by the tree in spring or autumn, is always mixed with a great deal of water.

To cause the gum to flow, they make several rows of incisions round the trunk, the number of which is proportioned to the vigor of the tree. The first row is seven inches from the earth, and the rest are at the same distance one from the other, and continue to the top of the trunk, and even sometimes on the boughs which are of a sufficient strength and size. The Chinese use a crooked iron for making these incisions, which must run a little obliquely, and be equal in depth to the thickness of the bark; they make them with one hand, and with the other hold a shell, the edges of which they insert into the opening, where it remains without any support. These incisions are made towards evening; and next morning, they collect the varnish that has fallen into the shells; the following evening, they are again inserted; and this operation is continued until the end of the summer. A thousand trees yield

almost, in one night, twenty pounds of varnish.

This varnish, for the most part, is not extracted by the proprietors of those trees, but by merchants, who purchase them for the season, at the rate of 3d. per foot. These merchants afterwards hire workmen, to whom they give an ounce of silver per month, both for their labor and maintenance. One workman is sufficient for fifty feet of timber.

While the varnish distills, it exhales a malignant vapor, the bad effects of which can only be prevented by preservatives and great precaution. The merchant who employs these workmen, is obliged to keep by him a large vase filled with rapeseed oil, in which a certain quantity of those fleshy filaments have been boiled that are found in hog's lard, and which do not melt. When the workmen are going to fix the shells to the trees, they carry some of this oil along with them, and rub their face and hands with it, which they do with greater care, when they collect in the morning the varnish that has distilled during night. After eating, they wash their whole bodies with warm water in which the bark of the chestnut-tree, fir-wood, crystallized saltpetre, and some other drugs, have been boiled. When they are at work near the trees, they put upon their heads a small cloth bag, in which there are two holes, and cover the fore-part of their bodies with a kind of apron made of doe-skin, which is suspended from their necks with strings, and tied round them with a girdle. They also wear boots, and have coverings on their arms, made of the same kind of skin. The laborer who should attempt to collect varnish, without using this precaution, would soon be punished for his rashness; and the most dreadful effects would ensue. The disorder shews itself by tetters, which become of a bright red color, and spread in a very short time; the body afterwards swells, and the skin bursts, and appears covered with an universal

universal leprosy. The unhappy wretch could not long endure the excruciating pains which he feels, did he not find a speedy remedy in those preservatives which are used against the malignant and noxious exhalations of the varnish.

When the laborers go to collect this gum, they carry, suspended from their girdles, a kind of vessel, made of leather; with one hand they detach the shells, and scrape them with a small iron instrument, which they hold in the other, in order that they may lose none of the varnish. It is then carried to the merchant's house, where it is purified, by straining it through a cloth; and the dregs are sold to the druggists, who employ them for certain purposes in medicine.

The season of collecting varnish being ended, the merchant puts it into small casks, closely stopped. A pound of it, newly made, costs him about one shilling and eight-pence sterling; but he gains cent. per cent. upon it, and sometimes more, according to the distance of the place to which he transports it.

Besides the lustre and beauty that varnish gives to many of the Chinese

manufactures, it has also the property of preserving the wood upon which it is laid, especially if no other matter be mixed with it. It prevents it from being hurt, either by dampness or worms.

Every workman has a particular art and method of using varnish. This work requires not only much skill and dexterity, but also great attention, to observe the proper degree of fluidity which the gum ought to have, as it must be neither too thick nor too liquid when it is laid on. Patience, above all, is necessary in those who wish to succeed. To be properly varnished, a work must be done at leisure; and a whole summer is scarcely sufficient to bring it to perfection. It is therefore rare to see any of those cabinets which are imported to us from Canton, so beautiful and durable as those manufactured in Japan, Tong-king, and Nang-king, the capital of the province of Kiangnan: not that the artists do not employ the same varnish; but, as they work for Europeans, who are more easily pleased, they do not take the trouble of giving the pieces which come from their hands, all the polish they are capable of receiving.

CURIOUS OBSERVATIONS RESPECTING THE CONDOR.

NATURAL history, and above all that of remote countries, to which few travellers have had access, can never fail of affording pleasure; especially to those who are fond of contemplating the works of nature. People who are separated from other nations, and confined to one spot, where the same scenes are incessantly presented to their eyes, become, in a manner, insensible of the wonderful objects with which our globe abounds; and their curiosity can only be awakened by remarkable and extraordinary observations. Of this kind are the following respecting the condor.

This monstrous and singular bird is found in Peru, on the coasts of Chili, in the mountains of Quito, in the Cordilleras, and other parts of South America. The distance from the tip of one of its wings to the tip of the other, when extended, is generally 15 feet. Its claws resemble those of domestic fowls rather than those of birds of prey; but its bill is strong enough to tear up the belly of an ox. It frequents the mountains, as its constitution seems to require; for it would soon languish and droop, were it to remain in the low lands; it however comes down from the mountains in time of rain, or when the cold is severe. The strength

Strength and voraciousness of these birds are so great, that we are assured they sometimes carry off and devour children of twelve years of age. This perhaps may be a little exaggerated; but it is certain that they often seize lambs, and carry them away with the greatest facility.

The Indians have devised various stratagems to surprise them, and to stop their ravages. Sometimes they place traps for them near some carrion; others kill some useless animal, and rub its flesh with certain noxious herbs, in order to poison them; after which they bury the flesh, until it becomes a little corrupted, and until the effluvia of the herbs be entirely evaporated, for these birds would not approach, did they in the least smell them. They then take the animal from the earth, and leave it exposed in the open air. The condors come in great numbers to feed upon it; but

they are soon intoxicated, and become giddy; they fall motionless on the ground, and while they are in this state, which continues for some time, the Indians have leisure to attack and kill them. Mr. Condamine relates another method used to destroy these animals, so destructive to the flocks. They expose, as a bait, the figure of a child, made of a kind of earth, remarkably viscous and glutinous; upon this they dart down, with incredible force, and entangle their talons in such a manner, that they cannot extricate them. The condors have so much strength, that, with a single blow of their wings, they sometimes knock down a man who attempts to seize them. They even parry, in some measure, with the assailants, and present one wing to ward off the blows which are aimed at them; so that it is with great difficulty they can be either taken or killed.

ANECDOTES OF EMINENT ARTISTS.

LIKE most people of great talents, Rembrandt was of a very whimsical and capricious temper. One day, while he was employed in painting a whole family in one piece, and when his work was on the point of being finished, some one came and informed him that his monkey was dead. Much affected by this loss, he ordered it to be immediately brought him; and, without paying any regard to the persons whom he was painting, he drew the portrait of the animal upon the same canvas. This singularity, as might be expected, gave much offence to the family for whom the picture was intended; but he refused to efface it, and chose rather to run the risk of not being paid for his labors.

Donatello, a celebrated sculptor, when he was giving the last stroke with his mallet, called out to the statue, "Speak!"

The paintings in the dome of the cathedral of Parma, in which Correggio has displayed all the beauties of his

art, were not approved by the canons who had ordered the work. Although the price agreed on was very moderate, it appeared to them far above the merit of the artist; having, therefore, brought it as low as they desired, they fixed it at length at the sum of two hundred livres, which they had the meanness to pay all in copper. The unfortunate Correggio, bent under the load he had received, set out with intention of returning to his own habitation, which was at the distance of two or three leagues from Parma. The weight of this burthen, the heat of the day, the length of the road, vexation, disappointment, and the anxiety he was under for his family, added to his drinking cold spring water when he was extremely warm, all conspired to bring on a pleurisy, which soon put a period to his life and misfortunes.

Arctin having offended Tintoret, by something severe which he said against him, the painter, pretending to be ignorant of this circumstance, invited

invited the satirical poet to his house, under a pretence that he was desirous of painting his portrait. As soon as they were both by themselves, the painter pulled a pistol from his pocket, and eyed the poet from head to foot, observing at the same time the most profound silence. As the proud satirist, the scourge of all the princes of his time, started back—"Fear nothing," said the artist, "I am only going to take your measure." Arétin, not at all satisfied of the painter's intentions, concluded that this ceremony would be fatal to him, and imagined that his last hour was come. Tintoret, however, after having kept

him in terror for some time, at length laid down his pistol, saying—"You are just eight times the length of my pistol. After this adventure, Arétin never attempted to criticise Tintoret.

Guido pretended, that as a painter great honors were due to him; and on this account he was extremely proud and haughty. He always worked with a certain kind of ceremonial, and appeared in a magnificent dress whilst employed in painting. His pupils, ranged in a respectful manner around him, prepared his pallet, cleaned his pencils, and brought him whatever he wanted with the most profound silence.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE LITERARY MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

IF you think the following EPITAPH, which is copied from a Tombstone in BROMLEY Church-yard, worthy a Place in your MAGAZINE, it is very much at your Service.

I am, &c.

W.

NEAR this place lies the body of
ELIZABETH MONK,
Who departed this life the 27th day of
August, 1753,

Aged 101 years.

She was widow of JOHN MONK, late
of this parish, blacksmith;
Her second husband;

To whom she had been a wife near
fifty years;

By whom she had no children,
(And of the issue of her first marriage none lived to her second).

But VIRTUE

Would not suffer her to be childless:
An infant, to whom, and to whose
father and mother she had
been nurse,

(Such is the uncertainty of temporal
prosperity)

Became dependent upon strangers for
the necessaries of life; to
him she afforded the
protection of a
mother.

This parental charity was returned
with filial affection,

And she was supported in the feebleness of age, by him whom she had cherished in the helplessness of infancy.

LET IT BE REMEMBERED,

That there is no station, in which Industry will not obtain power
to be liberal;

Nor any character, on which Liberality will not confer
honor.

She had been long prepared, by a simple and unaffected piety, for that awful moment, which, however delayed, is universally sure.

How few are allowed an equal time
of probation!

How many, by their lives, appear to presume upon more!

To preserve the memory of this person,

But yet more to perpetuate the lesson
of her life,

This stone was erected, by
voluntary contribution.

REVIEW

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FOREIGN.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF OVI-
PAROUS QUADRUPEDES AND SER-
PENTS. By the Count de la
Cepede, *Keeper of the King's Ca-
binet, and Member of the Royal Aca-
demies and Societies of Dijon, Lyons,
Bordeaux, Toulouse, Metz, Rome,
Stockholm, &c.* Vol. I. Quarto, Pa-
ris. 1788.

AT the time when Buffon was snatched from the republic of letters, he was employed in completing the history of viviparous quadrupedes and birds; and he was laboring also at that of cetaceous animals. The sublime genius of this celebrated man, superior to age and all its concomitant infirmities, was always active and fertile, even when abandoned by bodily strength. The view of approaching death was to him a motive only for new exertions, and before he paid the common debt of nature, he wished to put the last hand to his general and particular natural history; but his forces not being equal to the infinite details of so laborious a task, he engaged the Count de la Cepede to undertake the history of oviparous quadrupedes and serpents. This choice does equal honor to both, and on this occasion, we cannot help calling to mind the celebrated Raphael, who, pressed by those who admired his masterly pieces, entrusted to the pencil of Julio Romano some parts of his paintings, which he himself had not leisure to finish.

The part assigned to the Count de la Cepede, is not, indeed, the most striking part of natural history; but it still held forth laurels to be gained, and we must agree in opinion with the Royal Academy of Sciences, at Paris, that the Count has not suffered them to slip from his hands.

When we cast our eyes upon the number of organized and living beings which people and animate the globe, the first objects that attract our attention, observes

this writer, in his preliminary discourse, are the different species of viviparous quadrupedes, and of birds, the forms and qualities of which have been portrayed by the hand of genius in an immortal work; among the second objects which engage our attention, are oviparous quadrupedes, which nearly approach to the noblest and first of animals by their organization, the number of their senses, the heat which pervades them, and the instinct by which their actions are regulated. Their name alone, by indicating that their young are produced from an egg, points out that remarkable property which distinguishes them from viviparous. They differ from the latter, besides, in not having dugs, and in being covered with a bony crust of hard shells, sharp scales, tubercles more or less projecting, or with a smooth skin of a viscid texture. Instead of extending their paws like viviparous animals, they bend them, and move them in such a manner, that they are raised very little from the ground, upon which they appear rather to *creep* than to *walk*. For this reason they have been comprehended under the general name of *reptiles*; which name however, we shall not give them, as it ought to belong only to serpents, and to animals, which unprovided with feet, cannot change their place but by applying their bodies to the earth.

These species are not so numerous as those of other quadrupedes. We are not acquainted with more than one hundred and thirteen, but Buffon and D'Aubenton have given the natural history of more than three hundred viviparous quadrupedes. It is, however, difficult to number them all, and still more difficult to number only those which in reality exist.

The rest of this discourse is written with the same energy and vivacity. Before he proceeds to the different species which he is about to describe, the author explains what distinguishes, in general, oviparous animals, either with regard to their conformation, or their particular manner of living. We perceive among other observations, that these animals have, indeed, an equal number of senses with those of the most perfect and best formed of the viviparous; but except sight, all their senses are so weak, that they

N 2

must

must receive a much smaller number of sensations, have communication with external objects less frequently, and in a manner less perfect, and be internally moved, neither so often, nor with so much force. The cause of this coldness in the affections, of this kind of apathy, confused instinct, and of that want of decision in action, which is so often remarked in these animals, is as follows:

The heat and quantity of their blood are much less than in other animals. Without this, says our author, they would not fall into a state of torpor, to a degree so far beyond that which affects birds or viviparous animals.

Might we not oppose to this explanation the example of swallows, which appear to be no less subject to this kind of torpor? It is almost agreed at present, that these birds, instead of traversing the seas, as has been long supposed, retire to caverns of the earth, where they remain benumbed during our long winters, notwithstanding the heat of their blood, and their vivacity on the return of the spring.

The following characteristics, assigned by the Count de la Ceppe, appear to us to be somewhat more distinctive.

In all oviparous quadrupedes, the heart is smaller, and has only one ventricle, while in that of man, viviparous quadrupedes, cetaceous animals, and birds, there are two. Their brain is very small, in comparison of that of viviparous animals. Their expiration and inspiration, instead of being frequent and regular, are often suspended for a long while, and at very unequal intervals. If we observe the principles of their vital motion, we shall find a much greater simplicity, both in their organs, as well as in the effect which they produce. The different springs will be found fewer in number, and we shall even observe less dependence in certain respects between the various parts.

By all these causes combined, the author thinks it possible to explain, why it is difficult in these animals to stop the vital motion; the principle of which, diffused in some measure through a more extensive space, cannot be destroyed, but when it is at-

tacked in several parts at once; why they are fond of the sun, and at the same time take delight in moist places.

For the same reason, according to the Count de la Ceppe, oviparous quadrupedes may be deprived of considerable parts of their bodies, such as the head and tail, without losing their lives; some of them recover them, which is still more singular. And there are some even, which can move a long time after they have been deprived of that part which appears to be most necessary for life. Tortoises, for example, live a long time after their heads have been cut off; and frogs do not immediately die, although their hearts are torn entirely out. This phenomenon not only proves, that the nervous system of these oviparous animals is less compact than that of other quadrupedes, but it seems to demonstrate also, that their blood vessels do not communicate so much one with another. For, were not that the case, all the blood would escape through those parts where the arteries are cut, and the animal would remain without motion and life.

They can besides, adds the author, remain without food for a very long time. Tortoises and crocodiles have been observed to live a whole year without any kind of nourishment—We shall see in the history of aquatic salamanders, that some of these animals have been found, in a torpid state, amidst pieces of ice, taken from an ice-house during summer, and in which they had been shut up for several months. When the ice was thawed, and the salamanders were penetrated by a gentle heat, they returned again to life.

The whole mass of the bodies of oviparous quadrupedes does not lose any very sensible part of its substance during their long state of torpor. Of this we may be convinced by the following observation.

On the 7th of October, 1651, Sir George Ent weighed, with the greatest precision, a land tortoise, before it retired under the earth. Its weight was exactly four pounds, three ounces, and three drams. On the eighth of October, 1652, having taken this tortoise from the earth, he

he found that it weighed four pounds, six ounces, and one dram. On the 16th of March, 1653, the tortoise quitted its retreat of its own accord, at which time it weighed four pounds four ounces. On October the 4th, 1653, this tortoise, which had been several days without eating, was taken from the hole in which it had hid itself, and its weight was found to be 4 pounds 5 ounces. On the 8th of March, 1654, being put into a balance, the moment it came forth from its hole, it weighed four pounds, four ounces, and two drams. The same experiment continued for several years, was attended with the same result.

The annual depositing of their exuviae, when they have not, like the tortoise, a bony or solid covering, is also one of those characteristics which distinguish oviparous quadrupedes, and which has not escaped the observation of this learned and sagacious naturalist.

When the spring time, says he, restores their powers of motion, the first skin, whether smooth or furnished with scales, makes no more in any manner, a part of their animated body; it becomes in respect to this body, a foreign substance, and is pushed off, as one may say, by an internal motion in which it has no longer any share. The nourishment, however, which supported its substance, tends towards the surface of the body; but instead of repairing a skin, which has no farther communication with the internal parts, it forms a new one, which continues to grow up under the former. These efforts gradually detach the old skin from the body of the animal; completely destroy all its connexion with the interior parts; and this skin, which is more and more deprived of all nourishment, becomes more submissive to those foreign causes, which tend to displace it. Attacked thus on all sides, it gives way, and soon splits, and the animal clothed in a new skin, comes forth from its old covering, which was only an embarrassing appendage to its body.

This annual casting of the skin, is not produced entirely by a state of torpor. It takes place also in countries where a warmer temperature secures oviparous animals from sleeping in winter; some even cast their skins several times during summer in temperate climates. The same effect is produced by opposite causes; the warmth of the atmosphere is equiva-

lent to cold and want of motion; it equally dries the skin, deranges its texture, and destroys its organization. We might, perhaps, add to this explanation, that during summer, the nourishment which ought to support the exterior surface evaporates by excessive perspiration, whilst in winter, the same nourishment does not reach the surface in sufficient quantity, since the animal then takes nothing to renew it. It is thus, if we may say so, that excess and want of heat, equally contribute to detach this external surface.

From these observations which respect the organization of oviparous quadrupedes, the Count de la Cépède proceeds to their nature and qualities.

They are in general, he says, remarkably mild, and destitute of ferocity. If any of them, such as the crocodile, are very destructive, it is only because they have a large mass to support.

But it is only in the particular articles, that the author shews us how these general and common qualities are diversified in each species, by their peculiar organization, and the circumstances of their life.

These animals, he says, are often united into large troops; we must not, however, assert that they form a real society. What then results from their union? No work, no pursuit of their prey, nor any war which appears to be concerted. They never construct a place of common shelter; and when they choose one on the banks of a river, in rocks, &c. they do not provide a commodious habitation, proper for holding a certain number of their species. It is a retreat purely individual, which they equally adopt whether it be sufficient only for a single animal, or has extent capable of concealing several of these quadrupedes.

Notwithstanding their habitual silence, they all have particular cries to signify their desires. The male invites the female by an expressive cry, to which she replies by similar sounds. They are as fertile as their union is sometimes prolonged. They abandon their eggs after they have laid them, and are satisfied with choosing out, or preparing a place where they may deposit them. We cannot however say, that their conformation prevents them from employing the same

care as other animals. Do not the five long and separate toes which they generally have, their four feet, their mouth, and their tail, afford them better means for this purpose than what two claws and a bill afford to birds?

Oviparous quadrupedes in general live very long, if we may be allowed to comprehend in the duration of their life, that long state of torpor to which they are subject.

Such is the substance of the preliminary discourse, by which the author, pursuing the steps of Buffon, prepares us for the description of the different species of oviparous animals, which are the objects of his labor.—In order that he may proceed methodically, he divides these animals into two classes; the first comprehends those which have a tail, and the second those which have none.

In the first class, he establishes two genera, that of tortoises, and that of lizards; the difference of which consists in the bodies of the former being covered with a bony and solid crust, which is not found in the other.

The genus of tortoises affords still two divisions; the first comprehends sea tortoises, and among these the Count de la Cépède distinguishes six species; two of which have been little noticed by travellers. In the second division, are fresh water and land tortoises, to the number of eighteen species, four of which were before unknown.

The tortoise has received one very singular advantage from nature. Whilst other animals are obliged to dig holes for themselves with great labor and difficulty, or to seek a miserable shelter in hollow rocks and trees, or in the caverns of some mountain, the tortoise alone brings with it at its birth, a commodious and solid habitation; this habitation accompanies it every where, and it may be truly said, that it carries its house along with it. The greater part of them can at pleasure conceal their head, paws and tail, under the double cuirass which encloses them; the joinings of which are so close, that the claws of voracious

birds, and the teeth of carnivorous animals, cannot penetrate them but with great difficulty. In this asylum, they brave the attacks of their enemies; motionless, and freed from the trouble of defending themselves, they sustain with great tranquility under this natural and impenetrable buckler, the shock of the most terrible weapons, and the most violent blows.

The large sea tortoise deserves to be distinguished from other oviparous animals, by a quality very interesting for us; it is the only one which is useful to man and to society; it is one of the richest presents that nature hath bestowed upon the inhabitants of the torrid zone, and one of the most valuable productions which she hath placed on the borders of the land and water. To the navigator, exhausted by a long voyage, the tortoise furnishes a nourishment equally agreeable and abundant, a sure remedy against the fatal effects of a long confinement in a close vessel, amidst half putrified substances, which are continually changing by heat and moisture. These tortoises are sometimes six or seven feet in length, in reckoning from the point of their muzzle to the extremity of the tail; three or four feet in breadth, and four feet in thickness, in the largest part of the body. They weigh sometimes more than eight hundred pounds; they are found in such numbers that one is almost tempted to consider them as collected for the purpose of affording nourishment to navigators. They go sometimes to the distance of two or three hundred leagues, to search for places the most commodious for laying their eggs, of which fishes and carnivorous animals are very fond. Small tortoises also often become their prey, when from the shore on which they have been hatched, they follow for the first time, the impulse of instinct, which calls them to the sea. After they have been caught, they are shut up in some close place of greater or smaller extent, surrounded by stakes, and into which the sea can find a passage at high water; and in this kind of park their

their owners suffer them to grow, until they are wanted for use, without running the risk of the uncertainty of fishing.

To catch the largest, the fishers often wait in silence for that moment of the night in which they come from the sea to lay their eggs. They either knock them on the head with a stick, or turn them on their backs, without giving them time to defend themselves, or to blind them with the sand, which they throw up in great abundance with their fins. Sometimes it is necessary for several people to go in company, who make use of stakes, by way of levers, for turning them upon their backs. Their shell is so flat, that they cannot throw themselves upon their feet; and they in vain struggle to succeed, while the fishers run to secure others in the like manner.

A very few fishers, by this method, can catch in a few hours forty or fifty, which contain a great number of eggs. Some of them are taken with harpoons also, in the midst of the waters; at other times, a bold diver throws himself into the sea, at some distance from the place, where, during the hottest time of the day, he observes tortoises asleep floating upon the surface, and rising up very near the tortoise, lays hold of it close to the tail; by pushing the hinder part of the animal he awakens it, and obliges it to struggle; this motion is sufficient to keep the tortoise and the diver above the water, and in this manner it is held fast, until other fishers come to his assistance.

These tortoises never attain to their full growth till about the space of twenty years. The Count de la Ceppe thinks, that their natural age is at least near a century. Each being capable of giving existence to near three hundred individuals, their multiplication, notwithstanding the great number which are destroyed, is not astonishing.

It is, says the author, only on shores almost deserted that they can ever acquire

that size which nature assigned them, and peaceably enjoy that length of life destined for them. Ferocious beasts, therefore, are not the only animals which in the neighbourhood of man cannot increase or multiply. That king of nature, who often becomes its tyrant, banishes to the desert not only the destructive species, but his insatiable avidity often turns against itself, and forces to distant regions the mildest, and the most useful. Instead of increasing his enjoyments, he diminishes them, by wantonly destroying in individuals, immaturesly deprived of life, that numerous posterity to which they would have given birth.

By this reflection, we may easily discern the disciple of Buffon. He is persuaded that this animal, so useful, and which has taken up its abode far from us, might be naturalized to our climate. The acquisition of a species so fruitful, this real treasure, which might be preserved, and which would increase of itself, would not, however, adds he, excite the regrets of the philosopher, like those fatal riches torn with so much fury from the bosom of the equatorial regions.

The genus of lizards, the description of which follows that of tortoises, presents eight divisions. At the head of these stands the crocodile, properly so called; after which come a number of species, such as the seps, the dragon, the salamander, &c.

Part of the article respecting the crocodile is as follows:

Nature, which has granted to the eagle the lofty regions of the atmosphere; given to the lion, as his domain, the vast deserts of the burning climates, has abandoned to the crocodile the shores of the sea, and the large rivers of the torrid zone. This enormous animal, living on the borders of the land and water, extends its power over the inhabitants of the sea, and over those which are nourished by the earth. Superior in size to every animal of its class, and sharing its subsistence neither with the vulture, as the eagle, nor with the tiger, as the lion, it exercises a more absolute dominion, and enjoys a sovereignty so much the more lasting, since, by belonging to two elements, it can so much the easier escape every snare: and as it can resist hunger so much the longer, it is under less necessity of engaging in furious combats.

In the length of its body it surpasses these kings of the earth and air; and if we except huge quadrupedes, such as the elephant, hippopotamus, and some monstrous serpents, on which nature seems to have taken pleasure in lavishing matter, it would be the largest of animals, had not the same powerful nature placed immense whales in the bottom of those seas, the shores of which it inhabits. It is worthy of being remarked, that, in proportion as animals are destined to cleave the air with rapidity, to walk upon land, or to glide through the waters, they are formed of a more considerable size. Eagles and vultures are far from equalling in size, the tiger, the lion, or the camel. In proportion even as animals live nearer to the shores, it appears that their dimensions increase, as in the elephant and hippopotamus; and, nevertheless, the greater part of those bulky quadrupedes are smaller than crocodiles which have attained to the utmost degree of their growth. We might say, that nature would have found some difficulty in giving such large animals springs so powerful, as to raise them in an element so light as the air.

We ought to say rather, that nature chose to manifest her wisdom more than her power. What destructive monsters should we have found in flying lions and tigers? What other being could have escaped from them, had the Creator to a devouring mouth, and tearing claws, added wings?

It is then often easy, pursues our author, for the crocodile to exercise its power over oviparous quadrupedes. Incapable of feeling violent desires, it is not ferocious. If it exists upon prey, if it devours other animals, it is not, as is said of the tiger, to glut a savage appetite, to quench a thirst of blood, which nothing can satisfy. But only to obey the calls of nature, which are so much the more powerful, as it has a very considerable mass to support. King in its own dominions, like the eagle and the lion in theirs, it possesses, as we may say, both their nobleness and their power. Whales, the first of the cetaceous kind to which we have now compared it, destroy in the like manner, either to preserve or reproduce themselves. Behold, therefore, the four great rulers of the sea, of its shores, of the deserts, and of the air, which unite to their superiority of strength a certain instinctive mildness, and leave to inferior species, and subaltern tyrants, an unnecessary cruelty.

The crocodile, in preference to all other haunts, frequents the banks of large rivers, which abound with slimy mud. Concealed there in the dirt, and resembling the trunk of a large tree, it waits motionless, and with that patience which is occasioned by the coldness of its blood, for the favorable moment of seizing its prey. Sometimes it raises nothing but the upper part of its head above the water; in this attitude, which leaves its eyes at full liberty, it endeavours to surprise large animals which approach either shore, and when it perceives any of them come thither to drink, it immediately plunges, and gliding below the water, seizes it by the legs, and drags it to a deep place, in order to drown it. It is in the water that the crocodile enjoys all its strength, and moves its unwieldy mass with agility; on land it is more embarrassed in its motions; however, on plain and smooth ground, it advances with rapidity; and the best method of avoiding its pursuit is to keep continually turning. Whatever may be the address of the crocodile, in discovering its prey, and its quickness in seizing it, success does not always attend its efforts. Sometimes it remains several months without eating, and it then swallows small stones, and pieces of wood, to prevent its intestines from contracting.

The negroes of Senegal attack the crocodile, while it is asleep, and endeavour to surprize it in places where it has not a sufficient depth of water to swim; they dart upon it, having their left hand wrapped up in leather, give it several wounds with a lance, or azagay, in the throat and eyes, and opening its mouth, prevent it from being shut by placing an azagay between its jaws, until the crocodile is suffocated by the large quantity of water which it swallows.

In Egypt the people dig on the traces of this enormous animal a deep ditch, which they cover with boughs and earth; they afterwards frighten the crocodile, which following the same course to return to the water, as it pursued in departing

ing from its banks, passes over the ditch, into which it falls, and is then destroyed by stones and sticks, or taken in a net. Others fix a strong rope by one of its extremities to a large tree, and tie to the other end a hook, together with a lamb, the cries of which attracting the crocodile, it endeavours to carry off the bait, and is caught on the hook. The more it struggles the deeper the hook penetrates into its flesh, while those who lie in wait, follow all its motions, by slackening the cord, and wait until it be quite dead, in order to drag it from the water.

The savages of Florida have another method of catching the crocodile: they assemble in a body of ten or twelve, and go towards the crocodile which is searching for its prey on the shore; they carry with them a small tree, cut down by the root, and while the crocodile is advancing towards them, with its mouth open, they thrust the tree into its throat, by which means they soon overturn and destroy it.

(To be concluded in our next.)

GEOGRAPHISCHE HISTORIE, van den Mensch en der Alam, &c. *A Geographical History of Man and Quadrupedes dispersed over the Earth. Translated into Dutch from the German of M. E. A. W. Zimmerman, Professor of Philosophy and Natural History at Brunswick.* By M. P. Boddeart, M. D. Member of several Academies. Utrecht. 1787. Octavo.

(Concluded from our last.)

MR. ZIMMERMAN considers the great difference of the aliments upon which men feed, and which are suited to his conformation, as the principal cause of the facility with which he can subsist.

It is in vain to say, observes he, that the vegetable kingdom is our empire; such mild philosophy would be misplaced in a work of natural history. Man kills, and he ought to kill; for this purpose all animals have been given him by the Creator, and from this his body derives its nourishment and its perfection; he is destined,

therefore, to procure part of his nourishment from the animal kingdom. He has canine teeth, a stomach, shortened viscera, all which proves that he has a right to kill, if he is desirous of nourishing himself.*

Man, therefore, every where uses this prerogative; for where do we find a numerous people, who feed exclusively upon vegetables? And what people is there who feed upon flesh, who do not possess vigorous and robust bodies? The Germans formerly lived only upon the boiled flesh of animals, and this is still the case with the greater part of the Tartars. The Patagonians, by feeding on flesh only, acquire that loftiness of stature, and nervous body, which distinguishes them from all other people of the earth.

Our author, however, is far from maintaining that flesh alone ought to be the nourishment of man, which would be contrary to the conformation of his stomach and intestines, as they are framed by nature for receiving aliment of every kind; he even relates several examples of whole nations, who feed only on fish, raw flesh, the fat of bacon, insects, and even vermin; not to speak of the excrementitious aliment of the Californians. To this we may join the examples of what want has compelled man to eat, what famine has made him devour, and we shall thence conclude, that our bodies are made for animal as well as for vegetable food.

Proceeding to examine the numerous liquors which man uses as drink, Mr. Zimmerman says,

An European often unites in the same repast, milk, common water, mineral water, broth, oil, vinegar, beer, different kinds of wine, spirits, vegetables and fruits, together with flesh, fish, and spices. If we cast our eyes upon the grand dinners and elegant suppers of our nobility, we will be convinced that our stomachs not only admit all the treasures, or rather poisons of Europe, Africa, and the Indies, but also that they are not disordered after such a strange mixture.

After having mentioned many examples of animals, which can live on

* See Wallis and Tyson, of men's feeding on flesh, in the *Philos. Transact.* Abridged. By Dr. Maitt. Vol. II. p. 244.

all sorts of food, the author proceeds in this manner.

But all this is nothing in comparison of man, the most voracious and gluttonous of all animals; there is no quadrupede (I do not here speak of some particular creatures of a nature altogether extraordinary) which, like him, can endure so complex mixtures. The single circumstance only, of the Europeans and part of the Asiatics being able to make an immoderate use of warm liquors, without experiencing the least weakness, or the least change, is sufficient to shew upon what a solid base the nature of man is founded.

The consequence which the author draws from all that he has hitherto said, is, that "man lives by means of his robust conformation, in all parts and in all quarters of the globe." And as he declares, that he cannot conceive the reason why Buffon refers this property to the soul exclusively, he terminates his researches respecting this subject, by the following question.

What is it that gives to the Canadian, the Greenland, and the Esquimaux, the means of braving as they do, and with an open breast, the rigors of their severe winter? Whence do they derive the property of being able to eat indifferently the flesh of the sea dog, either raw or roasted? The rays of the sun, which fall perpendicularly upon the negro, are so scorching, that they cause the skin of the soles of his feet which touch the sand to split, and nevertheless the negro is vigorous and enjoys good health. The fox, the bear, the marmotte, and the beaver, incited by instinct, form to themselves retreats, which, in some measure, give them a resemblance to man. Without doubt, the soul derives benefit from that beautiful conformation of the body; it raises man above all other animals, procures him every where enjoyments which encrease his happiness, but it would never raise him to the rank of a general inhabitant of the earth, had not an all wise Providence given him a body capable of enduring every climate.

After having, in the first chapter, considered man, so far as he is capable of enduring every degree of heat and cold, Mr. Zimmerman, in the second section, enquires into the different effects produced by these different degrees; the pain which he has suffered

from them; how his first figure came to be changed; and lastly, if it has been possible for natural causes to produce in the same race of men, that difference which we observe at present, among the various nations who inhabit our globe. The author makes some particular digressions respecting Germany; he advances the usual arguments, to prove that the climate of Germany was much colder in the time of Cæsar and Tacitus, than it is now. He is of opinion, that its temperature might have been at that period, the same as that which is observed in our European climates, under the sixtieth or sixty-second degree of northern latitude. The regimen of the ancient Germans, with regard to their diet, abstinence from spiritous liquors, and above all, from an early commerce with women, was very different from that of the Germans of the present age. The author refers to this cause, the gigantic stature of the ancient Germans, of which Cæsar, Tacitus, and other authors make mention.—Conringius says, that the greater part of the writers of that time, make the stature of the Germans to be seven Roman feet; that is to say, six feet, three inches and a half French. But though it may be possible, that some, or even several of them, were of that height, we do not see any reason for believing with Mr. Zimmerman, that whole armies, and particularly a whole nation, were of such a stature.

At a time, when victories depended chiefly upon bodily strength, the Germans held it as an invariable rule, to place at the head of their armies the tallest men; not so much to render their attacks effective, as to strike a terror into their enemies. Tacitus says expressly, *ex omni juventute dilectos ante aciem locant*; they place at the head of their armies the flower of their youth. After this digression, the author proceeds to general considerations upon the variety of the human species.

The tallest people known at present are the Patagonians. According to the most authentic relations, they are generally

generally as tall as the ancient Germans, and, like them, they feed on raw flesh. They inhabit the fertile plains of Chili and Paraguay, the temperature of which, according to Mr. Zimmerman, approaches very near to that of ancient Germany.

After some reflections upon the ancient inhabitants of the northern regions of Europe, and the *Anacsis*, who were the most beautiful people of North America, our judicious author concludes, that "a very sensible degree of cold is necessary to give the human body all that expansion of which it is susceptible."

The reason which Mr. Zimmerman assigns, why the present inhabitants of our northern countries have not the same gigantic stature as their ancestors, is their manner of living, which is totally different; and indeed to this we can make little objection.

He passes afterwards to the opposite stature, and says,

The people of the smallest stature are the Esquimaux, the Greenlanders, the Samojedes, and the Ostiacks, who live under the 65th and 66th degree of northern latitude; every thing there is small, plants as well as animals.

In that frozen region, says he, nature is as it were dead: plants, beautiful in other countries, are there small and stunted; animals, which in other places are robust, bold, and sagacious, are there small, stupid and dumb; man, even, has there lost his original form. Would it be then unreasonable to attribute this degeneration of the human figure to the extreme cold of the climate, the nature of which is to contract? The highest degree of cold does not therefore permit the fibres of man to expand entirely, whilst a less degree, instead of proving hurtful, is necessary to give them force and elasticity. It is a certain truth, that the same cause produces different effects when it acts upon different objects: under the greatest degree of cold, man becomes diminutive, and the dog loses his instinct; in the one, it is the body which suffers; in the other, the intellect.

By combining the opinion of Sanowich with that of Lord Kaimes, our author thinks that the Tartars, the Laplanders, and the Hungarians, are sprung from one common stem; and

he attributes to the difference of climate, as well as to other accidental circumstances, the diversity of conformation which is observed in those people.

Besides the dwarfs of the north, of Terra del Fuego and the Straits of Magellan, it is said that people of a very diminutive size are found also in the torrid zone. The editors of "An Historical Account of Voyages" speak of the dwarfs of *Matimbo*. Commerfon relates, that, in the island of Madagascar, he found a nation of dwarfs, with very long arms; one of their women, he tells us, whom he measured, was only three feet eight inches in height. He imagines, however, that the form of their huts may have checked the growth of their bodies. But, as little satisfied with this idea as with that of the Abbe Pichon, Mr. Zimmerman is of opinion, that if there be in reality such a people in the island of Madagascar, they are descended from some who have been originally deformed.

The second essential difference among men is the color of the skin. As the foundation of his reasoning upon this subject, the author observes, that the color of the inhabitants of a country is always black in proportion to the heat of their climate; he attributes the different shades of brown and black, observed among the Indians, to the greater or less heat of the country which they inhabit; a theory which is the same as that of Buffon, Robertson, Paw, &c. What the author says upon this head is only a repetition of what other naturalists have advanced; he, however, has the merit of uniting a number of facts, and of having displayed his arguments in a very ingenious manner.

The color of the negroes is a phenomenon, which has given rise to various opinions.

It has long been known, says he, that the color of the negroes is occasioned by a viscous matter, called the *corpus mucosum*; but Mr. Meckel, a celebrated anatomist of Berlin, has since demonstrated that the brain even is browner in a negro than

than in a white*; and, he thinks, that the very subtle humor which tinges the brain may end at the extremity of the nerves, and in the same manner tinge that viscous body.

Our author's observations upon the discovery of Meckel are extremely judicious.

I observe, says he, that the blackness of the skin follows the degree of the sun's heat; I find afterwards, that heat operates principally upon the superficies of the skin. Am I not warranted then in believing, that the viscous body, in which the nerves terminate, being thickened, tanned, and blackened by the heat of the sun, may also tinge the brain? May not the extremities of the nerves draw the black matter from the viscous substance, and convey its most delicate particles even to the brain? It is well known, that there are in the epidermis a number of small absorbing arteries; is it not natural then to believe, that these vessels attract the black color; that is to say, the particles which the sun has blackened, and thus tinge the blood, the semen, the bile, and at length all the essential parts of the body? For, according to Le Cat †, the semen, and according to Barre ‡, the bile of negroes are browner than those of the whites.

This new explanation I give with confidence, because it is certain, that there are vessels of a reticular texture; but I am ready to give up my opinion, whenever an able naturalist shall convince me of the contrary.

The thick lips, flat noses, and woolly hair of the negroes, do not, according to our author, prove that they have had an origin different from the whites, since the two first of these marks are common also to the Esquimaux and the Kalmoucks; and, besides this, they are wanting to certain tribes of the negroes.

It is probable, says he, that, if an European family of this sort should not mix with others, such a deformity would be perpetuated, and we should see, at the end of a certain time, a race of people with flat noses; and philosophers would then reason upon this race as they reason at present upon the negroes.

With regard to their woolly hair, he is decidedly of the opinion of Paw, who attributes it to the viscosity of the humor, which circulates in the hair, and nourishes it.

The conclusion which Mr. Zimmerman draws from these observations is, that mankind are descended from one source, and that all their varieties are the effects of particular circumstances merely local, and especially of the diversity of climate.

In the third and last chapter, he refutes the absurd opinions of Rousseau and Lord Monboddo, and opposes to their ridiculous theory the observations of Tyfon, Buffon, Daubenton, Camper, and other excellent anatomists; observations, from which it results, that the orang-outang differs essentially from man with respect to its conformation. We are surprised that, in refuting Rousseau, the author has not related the learned remarks of Professor Camper on the organs of voice in the orang-outang, inserted in the Philosophical Transactions, vol. LXIX. p. 1. This learned man demonstrates, by an anatomical exposition of these organs, that no species of ape can modulate its voice, so as to form articulate sounds.

The nature of our plan will not permit us to enter into a particular detail of the author's reasoning upon this subject; we shall content ourselves with saying in general, that they are judicious and solid, and founded upon the most accurate philosophical observations. In our opinion, he has fully demonstrated that the orang-outang is a species altogether distinct from man; and, by comparing our conformation with that of quadrupeds, he has proved, that man is formed to walk erect, contrary to the assertion of some whimsical philosophers, who have endeavoured to bring us down to the condition of brutes.

* *Mémoires de l'Académie de Sciences de Berlin*, Vol. IX.

† *On the Physical Cause of the Color of Negroes*. Paris, 1741.

‡ *Traité de la Skin*.

BRITISH PUBLICATIONS.

A DISSERTATION on the GIPSIES, being an Historical Enquiry concerning the Manner of Life; Economy, Customs, and Conditions of these People in Europe, and their Origin: Written in German, by Heinrich Moritz Gottlieb Grelman. Translated into English by Matthew Raper, Esq. F. R. S. and A. S. London, Elmfield. 1787.

THE existence of that wandering race of people, called Gipsies, in most of the countries of Europe, is an historical phenomenon of which no satisfactory account has hitherto been given. The common received opinion is, that they are the descendants of those Egyptians who retired from their own country, when it was subjected to the Turkish yoke, by Selim the First, and that they are thence called by corruption, Gipsies. Whatever may have been their origin, it is certain that they are numerous, and that they are to be found not only in Europe, but also in Asia, and in some parts of Africa.

The author divides this work into two parts; in the first, he treats of the various appellations given to these people; of their dispersion, and their numbers in Europe; of their manner of living, especially in Germany, where they abound; of their language, sciences, and arts, and of several other particulars respecting them.

The French, who received their first accounts of these people from Bohemia, call them Bohemians; the Dutch, supposing that they came from Egypt, distinguish them by the appellation of Heydens, Heathens. The Moors, or Arabians, observing their propensity to thieving, give them the name of Charami robbers. In Hungary, they were formerly called Pharaohites, and the vulgar in Transylvania still continue the same name. The Portuguese and Spaniards, call

them Gitanos. In the second part, the author examines into the origin of the gipsies,

It is no where recorded, says he, in what year, or in what part of Europe, gipsies made their first appearance. But it is to be premised, what will afterwards be investigated, that they did not originate in our quarter of the world; on the contrary, that they strayed hither, as oriental strangers, either from Egypt, Asia Minor, or some other part: we shall then examine, whether it may not be possible, by means of what is related, in old writings, concerning the discovery of them, in different countries, to follow the track so far, as to make out, where and when they first set foot on European ground.

Mention is made of them in Germany, so early as the year 1417, when they appeared in the vicinity of the North Sea. A year afterwards we find them also in Switzerland and in the country of the Grisons. In 1422, they likewise appeared in Italy. It is unknown what was the earliest period, that they were observed in France and Spain; but their appearance in these countries, must have been of later date than among us, as is proved in respect to France; by the name Bohemians, which they bear there; in regard to Spain, Cordova, in order to contradict some surmises, about the gipsies mother country, uses the argument, that they were known in Germany, prior to either Spain or Italy. The French make the first mention of them in 1427, when they straggled about Paris, having arrived there on the 17th day of August.

From what country did they come into Germany? It is Muratori's opinion from Italy; but how unfounded this is, appears clearly from their coming to that country, after they had been in Germany. The Bologna Chronicle ascertains the time, when Italy became acquainted with these people. The herd, therein mentioned, which arrived in that city on the 18th of July, 1422, consisted of about an hundred men; whose leader, or (as they called him) Duke's name, was Andreas. They travelled from Bologna to Forli, intending to proceed to pay the Pope a visit at Rome. Muratori founds his judgment on this Chronicle, not knowing that gipsies are spoken of in the German prints, five years earlier.

Still less true is what Majolus asserts, that they came from Spain, and only entered the German territories in the year

1493, when they were driven out of Spain, by Ferdinand the Catholic. Hungary is certainly the country from whence they came into Germany. Not only the time confirms this conjecture, as we find them in Hungary in 1417, the very same year that they were first observed in Germany, but Aventin expressly mentions Hungary, among the countries from which he supposes them to come.

In this state our examination rests, in regard to whether they appeared earlier in some other place, or arrived here first.

That Poland should be the country which harboured the first gipsies, and that they spread from thence into Wallachia, Transylvania and other places, is a mere arbitrary surmise. The writer who is of this opinion, appeals to Munster's intelligence, but that does not contain a syllable in confirmation of it. Others, with the greatest confidence, maintain, that Wallachia and Moldavia, where they also wandered about in 1417, are the places in which they made their first appearance among us.—Cantemir, on the contrary, is very undecided in this matter, saying, "From whence, or at what time, this nation arrived in Moldavia, neither do they know themselves, nor is there any mention made of it in our annual publications." However, the second opinion seems to approach very near the truth, but does not point out the particular province, in which the gipsies were first observed, (and of what use would that be?) But one information, compared with other circumstances, is of so much assistance here, that we may, without hesitation, pronounce Turkey to be the country, from which these Eastern guests found their way to us. This is probable; First, because Aventin expressly makes Turkey their original place of rendezvous. Secondly, as this explains why the south-east parts of Europe are most crowded with gipsies, as was asserted in the beginning of the other part. What they did in every other place, happened likewise in Turkey, viz. many remained behind, in every country they passed through. Now as all that came to Europe passed by here, whether at once, or in different divisions, it was possible, indeed a necessary consequence, that a greater number should remain here, than in the different countries, where their hords were much divided and diminished.

Mr. Grellman next proceeds to take a view of the different opinions of learned men, respecting the country from which these people originally came. In this part of the work, we shall not follow him, we shall content

ourselves with saying, that he rejects them all, and adopts a new one of his own, which is, that the gipsies derive their origin from Hindostan, and that they are of the cast called Suders. The author's arguments are as follows.

Two entire strangers will be able to know each other, the moment one speaks in a language which the other understands. It is therefore rightly asserted by an author, that it would be one of the most infallible methods of ascertaining the origin of these people with certainty, if a country could be discovered, where their language was in common use. The first and most necessary examination here, will therefore be to find out the country where the gipsies language is that of the natives; and this is no other than Hindostan. But before I endeavor to prove it, by a comparison of the Hindostan and Gipsy languages, I must premise something, which will serve as an introduction of considerable weight. It is a piece of intelligence, to be found in the Vienna Gazette, and comes from a Captain Szekely von Doba, a man, who was thinking of nothing less, than searching for the gipsies and their language in the East Indies.

Here it is: "in the year 1763, on the 6th of November," says Captain Szekely, "a printer came to see me, whose name was Stephan Pap Szathmar Nemethi. Talking upon various subjects, we at last fell upon that of the gipsies: on this occasion, my guest related to me the following anecdote, from the mouth of a preacher of the reformed church, Stephen Vali, at Almasch, in the county of Komora. When the said Vali studied at the university of Leyden, he was intimately acquainted with some young Malabars, of which three are obliged constantly to study there, nor can they return home, till relieved by three others. Having observed that their native language bore a great affinity to that spoken by the gipsies, he availed himself of the opportunity, to note down from themselves upwards of 1000 words, together with their significations. They assured him at the same time, that upon their island was a tract of land, or province, called Czigania (but it is not laid down in the map.) After Vali was returned from the university, he informed himself among the Raber Gypsies, concerning the meaning of his Malabar words, which they explained without trouble or hesitation."

In this anecdote, every thing seems to happen by chance; even the learned man who published it in the Gazette, appeared as if fallen from the clouds, and entirely

entirely overlets his system; for he was the person, mentioned above, who broached the opinion of the gipsies being Mongol Tartars. So much more weighty, therefore, and unexceptionable, are the hints it throws out, for the discovery of the gipsies mother country, by means of their language.

That further, according to this anecdote, the gipsy language is declared to be Malabar, and I have pronounced it Hindostan, does not create any difficulty, although they are very different from each other. Probably the three young men, from whom Vali took down his words, were Bramins sons, whose language was that proper to the learned Bramins, or the Shamscritt. But the affinity between this and the common language spoken by the people of Hindostan, is the same as between pure Latin and modern Italian. It was therefore very natural, that the Raber gipsies should understand, if not all, at least the greatest part of the words which Vali repeated to them.

The author then gives a long list of gipsy and Hindostan words, between which he pretends, that there is an affinity sufficient to warrant him in adopting this new opinion, respecting the country to which these singular people owe their origin; but we are free to confess, that we have found very little reason, on comparing the languages, for following Mr. Grellman's idea. Proofs founded upon a similarity of languages are very uncertain, even where there are stronger marks of it, than in that observed in the language of the gipsies, and that of Hindostan. The author continues thus.

The comparison thus far will, I believe, be sufficient to convince every one of the truth of the position, that the gipsy language is really that of Hindostan. Let the reader look over the catalogue once more, and it will appear, on the average, that every third gipsy word is likewise an Hindostan one; or still more, out of thirty gipsy words, eleven or twelve are constantly of Hindostan. This agreement is uncommonly great; it must also be remembered, that the words above communicated have only been learned from the gipsies, within these very few years; consequently, at a season, when they had been near four complete centuries away from Hindostan, their native country, (as I may now assert it to be) among people who talked languages totally

different, and in which the gipsies themselves conversed. Under the constant, and so long continued influx of these languages, their own must necessarily have suffered great alteration, more especially as they are a people entirely raw, without either writing or literature. One word after another must have crept, from the others, into their language, consequently, by the frequent use of foreign words, the gipsy word of the same signification was more rarely used, and by degrees entirely lost from their recollection; by which circumstance, the original composition of their language became entirely deranged; which is the reason why, as any body may convince themselves by inspection, all kinds of languages and idioms, Turkish, Grecian, Latin, Wallachian, Hungarian, Sclavonian, German, and others, make part of the above vocabulary. The word *rome*, man, is Coptick, with perhaps a few more. It does not appear, that there is so much Persian in the gipsy language as has been generally imagined; and even what there is of it, they may have brought, with them from their native country, as many Persian words are current in Hindostan.

After all these reflections, we ought rather to wonder that the number of Hindostan words is so great in the gipsy language, than to require it should be larger, in order to furnish sufficient proof of the Hindostan language being the gipsies mother tongue.

But we have a right, from the agreement which appears in the catalogue published, to conclude there is a much greater in fact. I have always hitherto, only adopted the idea, that, among the gipsy words quoted, all those of the Hindostan language appear, which are still extant in the gipsy language, answering to the annexed meaning. But I am convinced this is by no means the case. It may be recollected, from the first part, how much the gipsies make a secret of their language, and how suspicious they are, when any body wishes to learn a few words of it. Even if he is not perverse, he is very inattentive, for which reason he is likely to answer some other rather than the true gipsy word. Under such circumstances, it is very possible, nay even probable, that in the foregoing catalogue there may many words be inserted, instead of which true gipsy, consequently Hindostan words might be found, but that the gipsies, when enquired of, either from levity or by design, did not declare them.

Further, it is not at all absurd to pronounce, that there remain more, or at least different, true gipsy words among those residing in one country than another. Now if, at any future period, some person should, by way of an experiment on
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the above catalogue, examine a second or third time, different sets of gipsies, in different countries, and compare the result with those already delivered, the catalogue would certainly receive a considerable augmentation of Hindostan gipsy words.

Finally, we must look back a little upon the Hindostan language itself. Thus, it is true, is fundamentally the same all over Hindostan; but, like every other language in the world, has different dialects, according to the different provinces. The eastern dialect, spoken about the Ganges, has different names for some things, and different inflections of some words, from the western one talked about the Indus. There is, besides, a third varying from both these, viz the Surat dialect, which has a number of Malabar and other words mixed with it. To this must be added, that in the Hindostan, as well as in every other language, there are several names for the same thing. The particular dialect, bearing the closest affinity to the gipsy language, as will appear hereafter, is the western, and perhaps more especially that of Surat. Had this therefore, or the western one in general, been the standard of the above comparison, and I had not, for want of words in these dialects, been obliged very much to have recourse to the eastern one, spoken in Bengal; or had we, even in this dialect, had such plenty of words, that, where the gipsy, from not knowing any more, could only give us a single expression, we might have been able to produce, not one or two, as at present, but all, or at least the greatest part of the synonymous appellations; we should infallibly, in this manner, recover in the Hindostan language many a gipsy word, which even the learned are unable to derive from the European, or any other language, and yet have as little appearance of being Hindostan. With respect to the construction, and inflexions of the two languages, they are evidently the same. That of Hindostan has only two genders, the gipsy the same. In the former every word ending in *j* is feminine, all the rest masculine: in the latter it is the same. That makes the inflexions entirely by the article, and adds it to the end of the word, the gipsy language proceeds exactly in the same manner. Finally, likewise, having a trifling variation, this identical similarity is evident in the pronouns.

Besides the proof drawn from similarity of language, Mr. Grellman endeavours to establish other marks of resemblance in support of his opinion.

His reasoning may be collected from what follows.

That the Gipsies, and natives of Hindostan, resemble each other in complexion and shape, also that they are equally timorous and cowardly, is undeniable. But I shall pass over these, and some other circumstances, as, perhaps, neither the one nor the other are such distinguishing marks, as not to be met with among other oriental people.

The name of Polgar, carries more weight with it, which we find among the gipsies, even in the earliest times, before they began to change the names, they brought with them, for our European ones. Polgar, as we may remember, was the name of the leader, who in the year 1496, obtained a safe conduct, from the Hungarian king, Vladislaus II. by virtue of which, he, with his hord, consisting of twenty-five tents or families, had the liberty of travelling about where they pleased. Now this name Polgar, originates in India, where it is the appellation of a deity, presiding over marriages and matrimonial concerns, and the Indians are very fond of bearing it, as well as the names of their other deities, which they do very frequently.

As, further above, in reciting the gipsy profession, their smith's business was mentioned; it was remarked, their anvil is a stone, and what more implements they use, consist in a pair of hand bellows, tongs, hammer, yife, and a file. With such a portable apparatus, the travelling gipsy wanders from place to place. If we compare this, with what Soumerat relates of the Indian smiths, the accounts agree so exactly, that it should seem as if I, or rather the author I copy, had transcribed literally from him.— This will appear plainer, if I insert his own words. "The smith," he says, "carries " his tools, his shop, and his forge about with " him, and works in any place, where he " can find employment; he erects his shop " before the house of his employer, raising " a low wall with beaten earth, before " which he places his hearth, behind this " wall, he fixes two leathern bellows, which " his apprentice blows alternately, to keep " up the fire. He has a stone instead of an " anvil, and his whole apparatus is a pair " of tongs, a hammer, a beetle, and a file." The most striking circumstance of this is, that both gipsy and Indian, should use the same kind of hand bellows, and both have exactly two. As the apprentice works these for the Indian, so does the wife, or one of the children, for the gipsy.

What is further asserted of the young gipsy girls, rambling about with their fathers, who are musicians, dancing in all kinds of indecent and lascivious attitudes and gestures, to divert any person who is willing to give them

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a small gratuity for it, is likewise quite Indian. Sonnerat confirms this also. "Surat is," he says, "famous for its dancing girls. These young women devote themselves entirely to the worship of the gods, whom they attend in the processions, dancing and singing before the representations of them. The handicraftsmen generally destine the youngest of their daughters to this service, and send them to the pagoda, before they come to the age of puberty. There they have dancing and music masters, with persons to teach them to sing. The Bramins form their young minds, and deslour them; in the end they become common prostitutes. They then join in companies, take musicians with them, to entertain any body, that chuses to engage them, with music and dancing." Sonnerat speaks here also, of the wanton gestures of these dancing girls, of which he has given a drawing; and ends his description thus. "The blinking of their eyes, half open, half shut, and the negligent sinking of their bodies, to the most languishing music, shew that their whole frame breathes nothing but lasciviousness."

Fortunetelling is universal all over the east; but the particular spot, where that peculiar sort, practised by the gipsies, viz. *chironomy*; constantly referring to whether the party shall be rich or poor; fortunate or unhappy in marriage; whether they shall have many or few children, &c. is no where but in India. I shall quote an instance, from thence, in order to evince, how perfectly gipsyish it is. "It once happened, says Baldaeus, that the Rajah Kans made his appearance before the inhabitants; when being given to understand, that an experienced Bramin was arrived, he ordered him to be brought before him, and said, Narret, (that was his name) look at my daughter's hand, and inform me whether she will be happy or unfortunate, poor or rich, whether she will have many or few children, if her life will be long or short, speak out freely, and conceal nothing." The Bramin having looked at her hand, replied, "May it please your Majesty, according to the indication of these lines, I read thus; she shall bear seven children, viz. six sons and a daughter, the youngest of which, shall not only deprive you of your crown and empire, but likewise of your head and life, and afterwards place himself in your seat." This method, Baldaeus adds, of looking in the hands, is very common among the heathens.

The excessive loquacity of the gipsies, as well as their very advantageous natural qualities, which I have taken notice of above, are likewise distinguishing marks of the Indian; besides, the very name *Zigeuner*, or, according to a broader way of pronunciation, *Cigane* and *Tchingen*, is the appellation of an

Indian people, as Thevenot's *Zinganen*, at the mouth of the Indus, prove.

Some few more hints, which give a faint intimation of the Indian descent of the gipsies, are, that the gipsies are so fond of saffron. Secondly, as Twiss assures us of those in Spain, that they never intermarry with any people who are not, like themselves, of gipsy extraction; which puts us strongly in mind of the Indian casts.

Mr. Grelmann is of opinion, that the gipsies first emigrated from India, when that country was conquered by the celebrated Tamerlane. We do not think his arguments convincing.

LETTERS ON GREECE, *being a Sequel to Letters on Egypt, and containing Travels through Rhodes, Crete, and other Islands of the Archipelago. Translated from the French of Mr. Savary. London. Robinsons. 1788.*
(Continued from our last.)

AFTER a short stay at Syme, Mr. Savary proceeded for Crete, but bad weather and adverse winds compelled the Greek Captain to make for the island of Cafos, which he reached, not without great difficulty, after having been buffeted about by the angry waves for above six weeks. In entering the harbour they were exposed to fieth danger, for as none of the crew were acquainted with the anchoring place, they got among breakers before they were aware of their situation, and had the ship refused to obey her helm, she must have inevitably been driven on sharp rocks, which would have dashed her to pieces. Here our author had an opportunity of observing the superstition of the Greek sailors.

The superstition of these Greeks, says Mr. Savary, is equal to their ignorance. They really believe their ship enchanted, and look on me with an evil eye; I am positively afraid they consider me as the magician, whose sorceries occasion their misfortunes. Fanatic as they are to an excess, they may take it into their heads, that their disappointments are occasioned by an heretic, and that, by throwing him into the sea, the persecution of Heaven will cease. Be that as it may, some of them have actually been in the boat, in search

search of a Greek priest, to destroy the enchantment. He, not long ago, came on board in his ceremonial habit, with a censer in one hand, and a *goupillon* (a vessel for sprinkling the holy water) in the other. He wore a long gown over his black robe; and his long beard, contracted eyebrows, and pointed bonnet, made him rather appear the magician himself. A basin of holy water was carried before him by a boy; and the grave father began by sprinkling our chamber, without sparing any who were present. He gave his benediction to the crew, the decks, the masts, and every rope; repeating a great variety of forms of exorcism, to free us from the power of Satan. He afterward went over the whole ship, with the censer in his hand, and burning perfumes, of which each of us had his share. After the ceremony was over, the priest held out a little basin, into which a few pieces of money were thrown, and he departed promising us a prosperous voyage, and much good fortune.—The sailors now believing themselves unbewitched, appeared perfectly satisfied, and cannot perceive that their ignorance and inexperience is the only charm that has obstructed them in their voyage; to discover this, would imply a degree of knowledge to which they are utter strangers. Superstition is the daughter of ignorance, which is born with the human race, and with that alone will be destroyed. The Greeks, endowed with a lively and active imagination, appear at all times to have been more subject to this weakness than other nations, as seems sufficiently proved by the multitude of temples dedicated to Neptune in the islands of the Archipelago, and the tragical story of the sacrifice of Iphigenia, to obtain favourable winds.

Casos is one of the Cyclades, and took its name from Caso, father of Cleomachus. It has suffered the common fate of the Archipelago, and is subject to the Turks, but they dare not inhabit it, as it has no fort. They are afraid of being made prisoners by the Maltese privateers, as has been the case at Antiparos, and other places, destitute of fortifications. On this account, therefore, the inhabitants enjoy more happiness, tranquillity, and liberty, than the Greeks of some of the other islands. This evidently appears from the reception which Mr. Savary met with, the account of which we shall give in his own words.

The guide, who conducted us, was one of the principal inhabitants of the island. He pressed me to step into his house, and introduced me into a hall, which, though not magnificently furnished, was sufficiently provided with every thing conducive to cleanliness and convenience. Around it was a sofa. He seated me on a raised bench, and placed himself below, while breakfast was preparing. Soon after, his wife and daughter appeared, with new-laid eggs, figs, and grapes. The girl blushed at sight of a stranger, whose dress must, no doubt, appear to her very extraordinary. Whilst we were breakfasting with a good appetite, and my host was pouring me out some excellent wine in a large glass, most of the women of the village came to pay him a visit. They saluted us, and seated themselves, without ceremony, round the apartment. They had been brought by curiosity, and soon began to whisper one another, and make their remarks on the French dress. Europeans rarely land in this solitary island, and the inhabitants, accustomed to see nothing but bald heads, wrapped round with shawls, long robes fastened with sashes, and venerable beards, could not but view with astonishment a foreigner with long plaited hair, without mustachios, and wearing a cocked hat, and short coat, that came no lower than his knees. They appeared greatly struck with the contrast, and a half smile, which was sometimes visible on their countenance, was not improbably a sign they were employed in making satirical observations on the peculiarities of my habit, while I, on my side, was no less amused with them. My attention was especially engaged by two young females, who would have been acknowledged to be handsome, even in Paris.

The least of the two had eyes full of fire, and fine black eyebrows, equally arched. Her complexion was rather brown, but her features extremely animated. Her cheeks, delicately rounded, were every instant adorned with fresh roses. Her delicate little mouth seemed formed to say charming things. When she smiled, teeth white as snow agreeably contrasted the vermilion of her lips; and a most enchanting vivacity animated her whole countenance, which seemed to sparkle with wit and repartee. Her ebony locks fastened, according to the manner of the country, to the crown of her head, fell negligently on a neck which seemed of polished ivory, and terminated with a delightful swell in the most charming bosom ever seen. A bodice without sleeves, opening a little towards the top, afforded a glimpse of the exact proportion of her beautiful shape. A robe of
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the whitest and finest cotton, edged with a purple border, four fingers wide, and elegantly embroidered, descended to her feet, and her waist was loosely girded by a sash, which floated round her.

The second disputed with her the palm of beauty. Her shape was more elegant, and her carriage more noble. Her eyes shone with a soft languor, and seemed formed to inspire love and delight, while her long eye-lashes, modestly lowered, concealed their splendor, as if she were afraid of betraying the secrets of her soul. Her complexion was fairer, and her cheeks less coloured, displayed the lily slightly tintured with the rose. Her features, though scarcely so expressive as those of her companion, had more regularity, and were models of symmetry and just proportion. At the first glance, she but just appeared what may be called handsome, but on more mature consideration, the perfection of the whole of her beauties enforced the highest admiration. The charms of the former inspired a sudden joy, and it was impossible to look on her without pleasure. Those of the latter made less impression at the first view, but, on examination, an irresistible attraction forced every heart of sensibility to pay her the sincerest homage.

All the women, who honoured us with their presence, were dressed in the same manner. They all wore the jacket, the sash, and the long robe of cotton. The only difference consisted in the embroidery, which varied according to their different tastes, and in the manner of wearing their hair, which some of them suffered to flow upon their shoulders in one or more tresses, while others fastened it to the crown of the head, letting it fall down again upon the neck. The two I have just mentioned were not the only ones who were handsome, but their beauty appeared to me most attractive.

You may possibly imagine, that, after the sad scenes to which I had been for some time accustomed, my imagination was inflamed at the sight of these lovely females, and that I have taken a pleasure in embellishing them. That may indeed be the case; but if it be, the illusion was of some duration. I passed eight days in the island, and would not wish to alter a single feature in the portraits I have drawn. I have described what I saw, and what I felt. I own to you, however, that my surprise was equal to my pleasure. I expected to find on this rock, only miserable slaves, groaning under the oppression of the Turks; instead of which I met with a cheerful and happy people, who were fortunate enough to be able to preserve their liberty amid the despotism and tyranny with which they are surrounded.

Desirous of obtaining some farther knowledge respecting this agreeable spot, Mr. Savary directed his course to the highest mountain, which he reached in about an hour's walk.

From hence, says the author, we may discover Carpathus, which appears to be at no great distance, and extends from east to west. In front of the village, three little islands situated to the east, west, and north, form the extensive road in which our vessel lay at anchor. They are uncultivated, and produce nothing but brambles. Below the hill from which I made my observations, stands a small chapel surrounded by fig-trees. Here begin a chain of hills, that, bending into a semicircle, leave in the middle a plain of a league in circumference, which has been cleared out by the inhabitants, with infinite labour. They have torn up large pieces of rock, and removed heaps of stones, with which they have formed the walls of the inclosure. All this space is divided into compartments, and shared among the Calists. They sow barley and wheat here at the commencement of the rainy season, which lasts from October to February. The rain is not continual in these months, but none falls in any other; the remainder of the year the air is pure and serene, and both days and nights continually fine and clear. The heats are moderated by the sea breezes, and beneath so beautiful a sky the inhabitants enjoy a delightful temperature, and are almost strangers to every kind of disease. The sides of the hills are covered with vineyards, the grapes of which produce a very agreeable wine. I could not help admiring the industry with which these islanders have been able to cultivate rocks, hardly covered with a few inches of earth, and rejoiced in the reflection that they were recompensed for their labours, and that the island sufficed for their subsistence.

In the sequel of this letter, our ingenious traveller gives a farther account of the women of Calos.

When I had satisfied my curiosity, continues he, I returned to the house of my host, where they were waiting for me to dine. A hen, with rice, new-laid eggs, excellent pigeons, some cheese, and a glass of good wine, made me amends for the miserable repasts I had made on board. The men dined together, seated in a circle on the carpet, and the women in a separate apartment. This is the custom, and, though not in the French

taste, I was obliged to conform to it.—towards the end of our meal, the cup was circulated from hand to hand. The company drank to me, wishing me a prosperous voyage : and I returned the compliment, by drinking health and happiness to the people of Cafos. The guests were beginning to grow merry, when the sound of musical instruments made us rise from table.

About twenty young girls, dressed all in white, with flowing robes, and plaited locks, entered the apartment, and with them a young man, who played on the lyre, which he accompanied with his voice. Several of them were handsome, all healthy and lively, and there were among them some who even rivalled the two belles I have already described.—I must own, that this scene appeared to me enchanting. The uniform dress of these nymphs, the modesty which heightened their charms, their becoming bashfulness, their joyous but decent merriment, all contributed to make me almost imagine myself suddenly transported to the island of Calypso. They began to range themselves in a ring, and invited me to dance. I did not wait for many entreaties. The circle we formed is singular, from the manner in which it is interwoven ; the dancer does not give his hand to the two persons next him, but to those next them, so that you have your hands crossed before your neighbours, who are thus locked, as it were, in the links of a double chain. This interweaving is not without pleasure, for reasons by no means difficult to understand. In the middle of the circle stood the musician, who played and sang at the same time, while all the dancers kept exact time in advancing, retreating, or turning round him. For myself, I followed where my partners led me, my mind being less occupied with the dance than with the charming females who composed it.

The next day I took a view of the village. It consists of about a hundred houses, each of them inhabited by a single family ; they are all of stone, built very strong ; and contain in general, two or three lower parlours, with a couple of rooms above. Each house has its oven and cistern, cut out of the rock. The latter are filled during the rainy season, and the water is preserved in them pure and limpid. Besides this, a hundred paces below the village is a fine spring, which flows the whole year.

I entered several houses, where I found the women employed in spinning and embroidering, and some in making the fine lincens which they wear. Their frames are small, but well contrived, and they work with a great deal of skill. I every where met with activity, industry, and

neatness. I afterwards paid visits to several of the girls I danced with the day before, and was received very favourably. I entered into conversation with them, and inquired why so many pretty women were to be seen in the island, and so few men, for I had only met with five or six. They answered that, during the spring, the summer, and part of autumn, "the men were out at sea." They trade," said they, "to different islands of the Archipelago, and return from time to time, to bring their families the provisions they may stand in need of, but only pass the winter with them. They sow the land in November, get in the harvest in March, and immediately afterward return to sea. The produce of the island not being sufficient for the maintenance of its inhabitants, they are forced to seek supplies from other countries, with the assistance of which, if we are not rich, we live at least in a comfortable mediocrity. The boys accompany their fathers, and become sailors ; while they are absent, we spin cotton as you see, and weave a part of it for their clothing and our own."

In these visits I could not but admire the regularity and wisdom of this little republic, the peace and harmony that reigned among its members, and above all, that cheerfulness and content, which was so visible in their countenances.—Happy people! said I to myself; ambition and intrigue trouble not your tranquillity ; the thirst of gold hath not corrupted your manners ; the quarrels, dissensions, and crimes with which it hath covered the earth, are to you unknown. Here no citizen, proud of his titles, or his wealth, tramples under foot his humble countrymen ; no cringing valet flatters the vices of his master ; man is equal to man, nor does the Cafot blush, or abase himself before the Cafot. Respect and mutual esteem unite you. Your enjoyments consist in the pure pleasures which nature offers to all her children, and your happiness is founded on the durable basis of mediocrity and equality!

The respect I owe to truth, however, obliges me to confess that, in a private conversation with some of these handsome Cafot girls, I drew a flattering picture of the happy lot of the ladies of France.—I represented them as elegantly dressed, adorned with gold, silk, and diamonds ; conveyed in superb carriages from show to show, and from entertainment to entertainment, surrounded by admirers only attentive to give them pleasure, and wholly occupied with their amusements, and a succession of new delights. I had only portrayed the roses of a life apparently so delicious, and my admiring hearers seemed enchanted with my description.

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They sighed, regretted their condition, and, despising the humbler pleasures to which they were born, could have wished to have been transported instantly to France. So natural is it to the human heart to quit the happiness it enjoys, for the brilliant chimeras of imagination.

Another day I paid a visit to two sisters who were said to be very amiable. Melancholy reigned in their house, and sighs escaped them amid their occupations. The eldest, who was about eighteen, was tall, well made, and had a very pleasing countenance. She had not been at the ball. A deep grief cast a veil over her beauty, and her cheeks had lost almost all their colour. A dying flame shone languidly in her eyes, and tears seemed ready to start. How much was I affected! Her younger sister shared in her sorrows, and resembled a flower which, growing in the shade, receives not the beneficent rays of the sun, but languishes at its opening. I could have wished to console these afflicted charmers; but I had no claim whatever on their hearts, and, in so short a time, could not inspire them with sufficient confidence to be permitted to dry up their tears. I knew that one of them had just lost a husband, whom she tenderly loved. I was told that they were the handsomest couple in the island, and united by the purest affection; but that, after having been married only a month, the unfortunate man was shipwrecked, and perished in the sea. "He is the more to be lamented," added my informers, "as he had not attained his twentieth year. The younger of these amiable girls, tenderly attached to her sister, participates sincerely in her grief.—" This, however, is not the only cause of her melancholy; she is sixteen, and not yet married; and, in this country, men are scarce; the sea devours a great number of them, and, therefore, many of our poor girls remain without husbands."

This explained to me the reason why in Candia, and in several other cities, I have frequently met with Casiot girls, who have voluntarily forsaken their country. These young females, having neither protectors, friends, nor relations, are obliged to seek a maintenance by service. Their innocence is exposed to great dangers, and frequently, led astray by example, or seduced by the temptations wealth ever has in its power to offer, they embrace a life of licentiousness and debauchery. I have seen many of them, who had entirely forgotten the manners of their island, and totally lost that modesty and ingenuousness, which constitute the loveliest charm of their countrywomen.

During my stay at Casos, a bark arriv-

ed, laden with rice, melons, pomegranates, and various fruits. Immediately almost all the women hastened down the hill with the greatest impatience; some to meet a husband, others a father, a brother, or a friend. I never witnessed stronger expressions of joy and tenderness; they embraced them with transport, pressed them to their bosoms, and thanked Heaven for once more restoring them to their anxious wishes. Every token of the most heartfelt joy, every expression of the tenderest love, was lavished on both sides. The scene was indeed most affecting. These, said I to myself, are the ancient Greeks; such was their lively imagination, ever ready to take fire, and such the exquisite sensibility, which distinguished them from all the nations of the earth. This rock has preserved them from the Turkish yoke, and they have retained their ancient character.

The afternoon of this memorable day was dedicated to pleasure. The Casiot captain gave a little ball, and I accepted of his invitation. The hall was filled with a number of lively girls, with their tresses perfumed, and dressed in their handsomest boddices, their best embroidered falbes, and their whitest gowns.—Various rounds, such as I have before described, were formed. Two lyres, and fingers placed on a raised seat, animated the motions of the dancers, and pleasure sparkled in every eye. The young men who had just arrived took their places at the side of their wives or mistresses, clasped them round the waist in dancing, and felt the palpitation of their hearts, while joy beamed in every face. The young Greek females, with downcast eyes, endeavoured to conceal the pleasure they felt; but their blushes, and their heaving bosoms, sufficiently shewed who were the objects of their affection. How great the pleasure of this simple recreation! Each motion gave a new sensation of delight. Our artificial dances may be infinitely more graceful, elegant, or majestic; but how cold are they when compared to this joyous round! In those vanity alone is gratified; in these heart speaks to heart, by a look, a smile, and, above every thing, by the touch. All-wise Nature has implanted the means of happiness within ourselves. The rich man flatters himself he shall obtain it amid the brilliant companies he assembles, and, by displaying pomp and magnificence, endeavours to purchase it with gold. Alas! knows he not that this inconstant divinity flies the importunity of ostentation, disdains a bribe, and contemns the pride and vanity of wealth!

The westerly winds have detained us eight days in the road of Casos, and I thank Heaven for their continuance. I have

have visited countries, on which liberal Nature has lavished all her treasures. I have seen others where tyrants have compelled her to refrain her bounties, and every where have found nations unhappy, not by their own fault, not by the sterility of the soil, but by the vices of the government to which they are subject.—In the midst of slaves crouching beneath the Ottoman yoke, I have found a rock, only three leagues in circumference, on which the Turk dares not set his foot, and inhabited by a free and happy people. There each father of a family is a sovereign within his own house; he decides every difference, and his decrees are laws, which cannot but be equitable, since they are only dictated by paternal tenderness. When any disputes arise, the priests and the old men assemble and decide them; but disputes cannot be frequent among citizens, who are all equal, and alike unacquainted with poverty or riches. All the members of this little society are employed; and I have seen the handsomest of their women go down into the valley, to wash their linen at the fountain, as in the days of Homer. They cheer their labours with a song; nor do they imagine themselves disgraced by their humble employment. It is only in countries where the rich can purchase service from the hands of the poor, that they blush to make use of their own.

Travellers, who have made observations on the character of the Greeks under the Ottoman yoke, justly reproach them with hypocrisy, perfidy, and meanness. These vices are not inherent in their nature, but are the consequence of the servitude in which they live. The inhabitants of Cafos are also Greeks; but, enlightened, and warmed, by a ray of liberty, they possess industry, sensibility, and integrity. Send them a Cadi, a Pacha, or a Mouteveli, they will become as perfidious and corrupt as the rest of their nation. From this observation we may be convinced of the first and most sacred of political truths; that, in general, man is virtuous in proportion as he preserves his liberty and natural rights, and that as he is deprived of these, he becomes vicious and degenerate.

The next object of Mr. Savary's attention is the island of Crete. After an account of the ancient state of this country, so celebrated in antiquity for being the birth place of Jupiter, and for furnishing the model of those laws which Lycurgus established at Lacedæmon, we find a general sketch of its history, and the different revolu-

tions that took place in it till it was taken by the Turks in 1670. From this part of the work extracts cannot properly be made; we shall, therefore, proceed to give some account of the present state of the island.

Candia is the seat of the Turkish government, and the Porte usually sends hither a Pacha with three tails. Here, also, the principal officers and the different corps of the Ottoman soldiers are assembled. The city, which was rich and populous, under the Venetians, is greatly fallen from its ancient splendor. The harbor is a handsome basin, where ships are sheltered from every wind, but it is daily filling up, so that it is now capable of receiving only boats and small vessels, lightened of part of their cargo. The city is divided by straight streets, and decorated with well built houses, a handsome square, and a magnificent fountain, but contains within its extensive walls only a small number of inhabitants. That of the market is the only quarter in which any signs of activity or affluence are to be perceived. The Mahometans have converted the greater part of the Christian temples into mosques. They have left, however, two churches for the Greeks, one for the Armenians, and a synagogue for the Jews.

(To be concluded in our next.)

A TOUR IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND, in the Year 1785. By an English Gentleman. London. Robinsons. 1788. Octavo.

(Concluded from our last.)

IN our last, we left our traveller at Manchester; but as we do not mean to attend him through all the stages of his journey, we shall take the liberty of conveying our readers thence to the banks of the Clyde, which abound with romantic and picturesque views.

Having travelled about three miles, says the author, we fall in with the Clyde, the banks of which are under tolerable cultivation, and in some places

places prettily adorned with hanging woods. In this ride, the country improves every mile, and begins to be enriched by several gentlemen's seats, with plantations about them, which, after the wide wastes and dreary solitudes lately traversed, affords a pleasing relief to the eye, and wears the appearance of comfort. On the right hand, about five miles from Lanerk, is a seat of Lord Hyndford. A mile further, crosses a very elegant bridge, of five arches, over the Clyde. Nearly two miles from Lanerk, we get out of the chaise, and walk about a mile out of the road, to an house called Corra Lynn, belonging to Sir John Lockhart Ross; close by which are the Falls of the Clyde, which exhibit the first scene of this kind in Great-Britain. Many circumstances concur to render these sublime falls beautifully picturesque: woody banks, the romantic face of the country, and the form of the rocks over which they dash, so varied, as to give the awful torrent the grandest, as well as the most diversified appearance. At the Corra Lynn, the river, which is very large, is precipitated over a solid rock, not less than an hundred feet; and, at Stone-Byers, about a mile higher up the Clyde, there is another fall, of about sixty feet, where the river, confined within a narrow bed, makes one entire shoot over the rock. At both these places, this great body of water, rushing with horrid fury, seems to threaten destruction to the solid rocks that enrage it by their resistance. It boils up from the caverns which itself has formed, as if it were vomited out of the infernal regions. The horrid and incessant din with which this is accompanied, unnerves and overcomes the heart. In vain you look for cessation or rest to this troubled scene. Day after day, and year after year, it continues its furious course; and every moment seems as if wearied nature were going to general wreck.

At the distance of about a mile from this awful scene, you see a thick smoke ascending to Heaven over the stately woods. As you advance you hear a fullen noise, which, soon after, almost stuns your ears. Doubling, as you proceed, a tult of wood, you are struck at once with the awful scene which suddenly bursts upon your astonished sight. Your organs of perception are hurried along, and partake of the turbulence of the roaring waters. The powers of recollection remain suspended for a time, by this sudden shock; and it is not till after a considerable time, that you are enabled to contemplate the sublime horrors of this majestic scene.

It is a certain truth, that such falls of water as these, exhibit grander and more

interesting scenes than even any of those outrageous appearances that are formed by storms, when unresisted by rocks or land, in the troubled ocean. In the sea, water rolls heavily on water, without offering to our view any appearance of *inherent* impetuosity: we deiderate the contrast of the rocky shores, and there is not any such horrid noise.

The cascade at the Corra Lynn, though it falls from the greatest altitude, and in one uninterrupted sheet, is narrow in proportion to its height: that at Stone-Byers, though not much more than half the height of the other, has somewhat in it of greater grandeur. It is three times as wide; its mass is more diversified; its eddies more turbulent and outrageous; and, without being divided into such a number of parts as might take any thing from its sublimity, it exhibits a variety of forms, that give a greater appearance both of quantity and of disorder.

In the Corra' Lynn, just where the water begins to fall down the horrid deep, there stands on a pointed rock a ruined castle, which about fifty years ago was inhabited. In floods, the rock and castle shake in such a manner, as to spill water in a glass. Imagination can scarcely conceive a situation more awfully romantic; or, before the use of gun-powder, more impregnable. Sir John Lockhart Ross has an house on the verge of this matchless scene.

On the edge also of this stupendous fall of water stands a mill, whose feeble wheel seems ready to be dashed in pieces, even by the skirts of its foam.

The walk between the higher and the lower falls is extremely beautiful and romantic. The rocks, on each side of the river, are an hundred feet high, and covered with wood. It runs also over a bed of solid rock, in many places broken, and worn into large cavities by the violence of the water, which, from a variety of interruptions, assumes a variety of directions, and in other places forms numberless inferior cascades. The two principal falls, when the river is full, are tremendous beyond description. In the summer months, the quantity of water which it contains, is not generally so great as to prevent the curious traveller from making so near an approach, as may enable him to take a minute and accurate survey of its beauties.

From the Corra Lynn the Clyde continues to run for several miles, between high rocks covered with wood; and on either side are several good houses, very pleasantly situated, and the land about them well improved. We dined at Lanerk, which is delightfully situated on the brow of an hill above the Clyde, which

which commands a very pleasing prospect. Lanerk is a borough town, but small and ill-built; and the inhabitants appear to be rather in a state of poverty. In the evening go to Hamilton, a neat well-built town, with some very good houses in it. The inn here, where we slept, is a very good one. It is kept by a Mr. Clarke, from London. At the end of this town is the Duke of Hamilton's house, which forms three sides of a quadrangle, placed in a very low situation. Some of the rooms in it are large and spacious, but in general not well furnished. Among the pictures which adorn this place, there is one which is indeed capital, namely, Daniel in the Den of Lions. On a hill, in front of the house, is a fanciful building in the style of a castle, where there are two or three sitting rooms, which command a very pleasant prospect. The rest of the building is allotted to servants, and other purposes. Here the Duchess has a very pleasant flower-garden, and, notwithstanding the height of the spot, every thing in it was very forward at this time, and all the flowers of the season in full bloom. From this building is a delightful ride of eight miles, on the verge of a fine wood, which hangs over the river Clyde. In a part of this ride we passed by a number of oaks, of much greater antiquity than any we had seen since we entered Scotland. Near these venerable trees, and on the top of a rock which hangs over the river, are the ruins of the old castle of the Hamiltons. Of this structure little now remains, except the gateway. Here we were shewn some of the original cattle of the country, literally descended from the wild ones, but which, like their present masters, have now grown tame and civilized. At the Duke's house is a most excellent garden of seven acres, well stocked. The walls are covered with fruit-trees, which are in a very flourishing state, and which exhibit not any symptoms of the bad climate complained of in this country. Cherries and strawberries were at this time quite ripe; and most other fruits were brought to maturity, in their proper season, without the aid of art, which was not the case at the Duke of Devonshire's, in Derbyshire. At the Duke of Hamilton's there is also a good hot-house and green-house.

Of Paisley we have the following short account:

This town contains 20,000 inhabitants, the greatest part of whom are employed in the manufacture of silk and thread gauze. This last is made from 5d. halfpenny to nine-pence per yard, and the silk from nine-pence to twelve shillings. The people are paid by the yard, in proportion to the fineness of the gauze. Some of the

men and women earn five shillings a day for the fine gauze. Very young girls are employed in weaving the coarser sort. Some of them weave three yards a day or more, and can earn thirteen or fourteen pence. Young children are also made useful in preparing the silk and thread for the loom, and are paid from four-pence to six-pence a day.

At this place are the remains of an ancient abbey, built in the year 1100, part of which is in tolerable order, and serves instead of a kirk. There are two other regular kirks in Paisley, and five dissenting meeting-houses. The manufactory here was established about twenty-five years ago, by an Englishman of the name of Philips; and it is now increased to the amazing magnitude of giving employment and subsistence to 15,000 souls. They have lately introduced the cotton manufacture here, which is increasing very fast.

The town of Paisley is near two miles long, and the new part of it, which has been built within these five years, contains many very good houses, built of free-stone. The principal manufacturers are sixteen in number, seven English and nine Scotch. Many of these have made considerable fortunes, set up their carriages, and built in the neighbourhood of the town elegant country houses.

Many houses in Paisley pay, in wages to journeymen weavers, women and children, 500l. a week. The carriage of new gauze patterns from London to this place, by the coach and waggons, costs 500l. a year. A fertile country, cheap labour, a sober and steady people, abundance of coal and water carriage, were the circumstances which invited English manufacturers to settle in this country; and the justness of their views has been fully evinced by the most prosperous success.

In the abbey, which belongs to Lord Abercorn, there is a monument of the wife of Robert Bruce, who broke her neck near this place, when she was big with child. The infant was preserved, and afterwards created Lord Semple, and was grandfather to James I. The bells were taken out of this abbey, and are now at Durham. There is a most excellent inn at Paisley, built by Lord Abercorn, and kept in very good order by the present landlord, Mr. Watts, who provided us with a handsome carriage, and horses that performed a journey of six hundred miles, through the most mountainous part of Scotland, with the greatest ease. The civility and attention of Mr. Watts merits this remembrance.

According to this traveller, agriculture is far from being much attended to in the Highlands, although

though some of the Scotch nobility and gentry have now begun to open their eyes to their own interest. The following passage will enable the reader to form some idea of the author's sentiments on this subject.

A part of the estate of Lochiel, which lies on each side of this loch, has exceedingly good grazing land to the tops of the hills. The lower ground is a light sandy soil, which would produce very good corn; especially, as a great quantity of sea-weed is thrown on the shore, which, mixed with lime, makes good manure. The lime, indeed, is not upon the spot, but is brought from the island of Lismore in stones, and landed at Lochiel for three shillings per ton. At present, the weed, which is thrown on the shore, is converted to another use; which, probably, may be more beneficial to the proprietor than putting it on the land. It is cut once in three years, and burnt into kelp, for making glass. Mr. Cameron makes about sixteen tons of this triennially. It is sold, sometimes, for six pounds per ton on the spot, which must produce a good profit, as the only drawback is the labour, which is one shilling a day. The estate of Lochiel to the northwest reaches all the way to Loch-Arkek, where there is an extent of wood near twelve miles long, all firs; and, at the upper end of Lochiel is a very good oak wood, of near two hundred acres. The easy communication with the water and the sea, must make the timber of considerable value, if suffered to grow to a large size; but the growth of trees has been much neglected. The whole country being turned into pasture land, for the more immediate profit arising from grazing, has prevented the wood from getting up, which it would do naturally, if it were only protected from the cattle, as clearly appears from several spots about Faslisern's house, where the cattle are not suffered to go, being covered with very fine oak and birch. Were this simple plan adopted, either by inclosures or otherwise, in the worst part of the estate, where grazing is not so profitable, in the course of ten years woods might be raised which would be very profitable. As climate here is so much complained of, and the ripening of the corn is a matter of great uncertainty, the grazing ground might, at a small expence at first, be made more productive than it is at present, by adopting the method used in Derbyshire, of large inclosures, where grass will always grow better than when it is entirely open. This would feed more black cattle, and employ more people to attend them, than sheep do, the rearing

of which, I clearly see, if continued to its present extent, will depopulate the whole country; for one family can attend as many sheep as several miles will graze.

Ill fares the land, to half'ning ills a prey,
While wealth accumulates, and men decay;

Princes and lords may flourish, or may fade;

A breath can make them, as a breath has made:

But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroy'd, can never be supply'd.

Another plan is absolutely necessary for the improvement of all this country, which is, to grant long leases to the tenants, and to make it their interest to live at home and cultivate the land. By these means, the estates would, in time, be greatly benefited, the landlord might raise his rents without oppressing the tenant, and those people who are now, to all appearance, truly miserable and wretched, rendered comfortable and happy. The opposite plan to this is still the prevailing custom in most parts of the Highlands. The chieftain lets the land in large lots, to the inferior branches of the family, all of whom must support the dignity of lairds. These renters let the land out in small parcels, from year to year, to the lower class of people, and, to support their dignity, squeeze every thing out of them they can possibly get, leaving them only a bare subsistence. Until this evil is obviated, Scotland can never improve.

THE COUNTRY BOOK-CLUB. A
Poem. London. Lowndes. 1788.
Quarto. Price 2s. 6d.

THE author of this poem employs his muse in delineating the different characters of a village club, formed for the purpose of diffusing knowledge through their little society. After some observations on the progress of science, we find the following description of the rural spot where this society assembled, in order to spend the evening.

Above that circling bench, of dusky hue,
That clings around the oak from whence
it grew,
Where happy peasants quaff their nut-
brown ale,
And hear the rural song and merry tale,
In the thick branches of the curling vine,
Peeps forth, yet half-conceal'd, the vil-
lage sign.

The cluſ'tring grapes, in dewy bunches
ſpread,

Adorn the rudely pictur'd Marlborough's
head;

Thence gently through the chequer'd
raſters wind,

To ſhade the lowly, ſtraw-roof'd cot be-
hind:

The lowly, ſtraw-roof'd cot, through
many a year,

Eſteem'd for home-made wine, and ſpark-
ling beer.

On ſummer ev'nings, when approaching
ſhades

Embrown the miſty hills, and ſpangled
glades;

When the tired, ſun-burnt ſwain, with
bliſter'd brow,

Has left the painful labours of the plough;
When village-maids in ſcatter'd groups

are ſeen,
And ruſtics urge the foot-ball o'er the
green;

Within the boſom of this ſam'd retreat,
The motley members of the Book-club-

meet.

The character of the rural bookfel-
ler is thus delineated:

The rural bookſeller, of aſpect pale,
And bent with age, comes tott'ring down
the vale.

Since at this cottage-club he took the lead
Full fifty winters have o'erſnow'd his
head.

Who but has heard his tale, ſo often told,
Of famous men, whoſe names he once en-
roll'd.

How thoſe illuſtrious members ſpoke and
thought,

What ale they tippled, and what books
they bought.

Books, that were worthy of ſuperior
praiſe,

Unlike the ſlimſey works of modern days.
How hither firſt his way great Bunyan

found,

And quickly travelled all the pariſh round.
How often he had ſeen, upon the plain,

A knot of ruſtics, gather'd round ſome
ſwain;

Who ſeated near the pebbly riv'let's ſide,
(A riv'let then, but now a river wide)

Recited to the crowd each tuneful line
Of Quarle's huge emblems, juſtly call'd

divine.

Ah! happy man, thus gently floating
down

The placid ſtream of life, with fair re-
nown;

No rival envies, and no foe reviles
Thy ſame, confin'd within three narrow

miles.

Emboſom'd in thy little peaceful cot,
That fronts the green, near you delightful

ſpot

Where two tall rows of branching aſh-
trees meet,

To ſhade the corner of the village ſtreet,
Thou find'ſt an undiſturb'd retreat from

care;

Nor ſtriſe, nor calumny can reach thee
there.

The following lines give no bad
account of the topics generally diſ-
cuſſed in ſuch motley aſſemblies.—
Scandal, it ſeems, is not entirely con-
fined to the town; nor yet to the
higher ranks of life.

With well-feign'd tales of ſhame and
pity ſtor'd,

Now buſy Scandal hovers round the
board.

In modeſt guiſe ſhe makes her firſt eſſay,
But gains by ſlow degrees unconquer'd

ſway.

The tickling jeſt, and equivoue provides,
And hides her head, and holds her ſhak-

ing ſides.

The village ſecret tells, ſince laſt they met:
Who ſhines with ill got wealth, who

droops with debt:

Who ſleeps on roſes, and who treads on
thorns,

Who keeps his hounds, and who retains
his horns;

Who breaks moſt hedges, who ſupports
the crown,

Who builds up cottages, who pulls them
down;

What upſtart lives in affluence and eaſe,
That, t'other day, cried cabbages and

peaſe;

What farmers ſpent moſt money at the
Crane,

Whoſe wives and daughters dreſs from
Drury-lane!

What lover carves each branching wil-
low's rind,

What ſurly rector takes hiſtythes in kind;
What 'ſquire eats ortolans, to ſhew his

taſte,

What rural beauty ſwells about the
waſt;

What noble lord, eſteemed ſo wiſe and
good,

Has met a certain lady in the wood;
Who, if report ſays true, approved his

vows,

And left her brighteſt gem—among the
boughs.

It evidently appears that the author
of this work had Goldſmith in his
eye when he wrote: his characters are
well delineated; his verſe is general-
ly harmonious, and we have no doubt
that his poem will be read with plea-
ſure.

P O E T R Y.

HORACE. Book I. Ep. VI.

IMITATED.

TO A FRIEND.

Nil admirari, &c.

THE way to lead a happy life,
Quite free from anxious care and strife,
My friend, is nothing to admire
That can your passions set on fire.
Some men there are who view bright Sol;
The planets that around him roll,
The different bodies that appear,
And all the seasons of the year,
Without a spark of superstition,
Or fear, or sense of their condition.
What think you of the earth's produce,
In different climes, and of its use?
Pray tell me plain, what is your notion
Of the extended azure ocean
That washes India's fertile shores,
And round the spicy islands roars?
What of the noisy mobs applause,
Too oft bestow'd without just cause?
What of our plays?—What of our sports,
Where every idle fool resorts?
With what design I'd fain be told,
Should wise men all these things behold?
Who live to dread a constant prey,
Are as unhappy sure as they,
Who, votaries of fell ambition,
Strive still to alter their condition.
Whate'er phenomenon appears,
Awaken to the former fears,
The latter sigh for something great,
And long to live with regal state.
Men ne'er should let excess appear,
In joy, or grief, or hope, or fear;
For he that's wise may seem a fool,
The just, a mercenary tool,
If even virtue they pursue,
Beyond what men of prudence do.
Go now, and marble statues prize,
View silver plate with longing eyes,
Admire rich paintings, works of art,
And act the virtuoso's part:
Rejoice, because each wond'ring eye
Looks eagerly when you pass by:
Industrious, never ceasing range,
Be constant ev'ry day on 'Change,
That neighbour *Plumb* may not appear
A thousand richer the next year;
Yet when you've gain'd what'er you can,
You still are but a mortal man.

And 'midst your money-hunting rage,
You may be hurried from the stage.
For all to father *Time* must yield,
From his attacks no art can shield.
He can bring hidden things to light,
And sink in darkest shades of night,
What now conspicuous appears;
So powerful is a length of years!
E'en you yourself ere long must die,
And midst of clowns, and beggars lie.
If stone or gout torment with pain,
Your wouled health strive to regain.
Are you desirous well to live?
And who is not? If virtue give
That happiness which you desire,
And after which most men aspire,
Ne'er character and conscience barter,
For pension, title, or a garter;
Seek no rich service of fine plate;
Nor turtle at the *Bedford* eat:
With far no carriage from *Long-Acre*
Carv'd, gilt, and varnish'd with new lacker;
Quit luxury, and be content
With what indulgent heaven hath sent.
But if you virtue should esteem
An empty name, an idle dream;
In every kind of wares pray deal,
In spices, iron, or in steel;
Nor be ashamed to sell old clothes;
No man will ask you how you rose;
Do anything—turn broker, factor,
And if you're int'rest—a *Contractor*.
Be ever busy, never dally,
And dabble sometimes in the *Alley*.
Money works wonders ev'ry day,
And rules with universal sway;
Can credit, rank and friends procure,
And some fair charmer's heart allure;
Give to the fool a stock of sense,
And oft supplies with eloquence.
If wealth can happiness impart,
And ease the mind, and cheer the heart;
Let this your earliest thoughts engage,
Your latest this—at every age.
But if, upon the other hand,
Int'rest and power can this command,
Some hanger on you must provide,
To attend you always side by side;
With flatter'ing arts familiar grown,
And well acquainted with the town:
Who knows the Liv'rymen by rote,
And how much int'rest each has got;
Can tell you when to pay respect,
And whom to treat with cold neglect;
Each age and temper how to suit,
And as they pass you, thus salute:

My worthy Sir—your's at command—
 My dearest friend—and squeeze his hand—
 If you attend with proper care,
 You stand a chance to be *Lord Mayor*.
 If fish and ven'fon on the board,
 Can happiness alone afford,
 Arise at early dawn of day,
 And to the field post quick away;
 Or at some riv'let take your stand,
 And patient wait with steady hand.
 If no success your labors crown,
 When you return again to town,
 Your want you may with cash supply,
 And fish or ven'fon either buy.
 Expose your purchase through the street,
 And shew it ev'ry one you meet;
 'Twill gain you credit, and in short,
 You'll be thought dext'rous at each sport.
 If life be dull without a jest,
 And those who love, live happiest,
 In love and jests, your time employ,
 And midst of mirth yourself enjoy.—
 Farewell!—If you should better know,
 Be kind enough the same to shew;
 If not, be candid—plain and free,
 And these few maxims use with me!

E.

W A R; A N O D E.

BY MR. J. H. WYNNE.

HARK! the shrill trumpet calls to feats
 OF ARMS,
 Encount'ring legions darken all the
 plain;

From shore to shore resound the loud alarms,
 The Pow'r of BATTLES calls forth
 all his train.

Soft meek-ey'd PEACE from wild DISOR-
 DER flies;

Ah! leaving scenes of blood, ASTRÆA
 mounts the skies.

Where ancient Danube rolls his swelling
 wave,

Where lofty AUSTRIA's wide domains
 extend,

What mighty chiefs shall find a timeless
 grave,

Ere the dire contest of ambition end!

Yet glorious WAR! the world's great lords
 proclaim,

WAR! Glorious WAR! resounds the trump
 of Fame!

I know thee, WAR! in all thy pomp ar-
 ray'd,

Thy banners waving o'er the tented
 field,

With "all the glorious circumstance" dis-
 play'd,

That tempts to reap the harvest arms can
 yield:

The multitude thy pomp admiring views,
 While HONOUR, mighty shade! thy giant
 steps pursues.

Rich is thy robe; full haughty is thy stride,
 And oft' thy temples are with laurels
 bound;

But whence those gorgeous robes in crimson
 dy'd,

And whence thy brow with dazzling
 splendors crown'd?

Thy trappings cast aside, what view we there,
 But horror, pain, and blood, and anguish,
 with despair?

Else, why does yon fair mourner to the
 winds

Oft sigh in vain; in vain her love re-
 quire;

While he his fate in hostile conflict finds?

Why does yon orphan mourn his slaugh-
 ter'd sire?

Why?—But that angry Heav'n waves high
 the brand

Committed to thy charge, to plague each
 guilty land.

But far remov'd from ALBION be thy
 reign;

Far from our country's Heaven-defend-
 ed tow'rs:

Too much we know of TRUCE, and of thy
 train,

Thy wounds we felt!—Tranquility be
 ours!

Let PEACE her mildest influence here dis-
 play,

And distant nations hail her happy sway!

O D E T O F A N C Y.

COME, Fancy!—come, celestial maid,

In variegated robe array'd,

Attend me whilst I rove,

Where'er imagination leads,

Thro' flow'ry paths, and verdant meads,
 The seat of peace and love.

Or where wild mountains proudly rise,

And stretch their summits to the skies,

While with amaze and dread,

The wondering traveller often sees,

The threatening pine yield to the breeze,

And quiver o'er his head.

Come, bear me to yon rugged steep,

Whose pointed shelves hang o'er the deep,

Where foaming billows roar;

While screaming sea-fowl cleave the sky,

And round in mazy circles fly,

Along the shelly shore;

There let me view the winding coast,

'Midst bluish clouds obscurely lost,

Beyond the eyes short reach;

Or downwards turn my wand'ring sight,

Where awful cliffs the mind affright,

High tow'ring o'er the beach.

Triumphant

Triumphant o'er the swelling tide,
There let me view Great-Britain's pride
Extend each flowing sail;
In quest of wealth pursue their way
Towards the west, or rising day,
Before the whiff'ring gale.

To humbler scenes come now descend,
Where Nature's softer beauties blend
The sloping hill and dale;
The shady grove, the open glade,
The purling rill, the hoarse cascade,
That gleams from yonder vale,

By thee attended, oft I go,
Where murmuring streams meand'ring flow,
And fertile plains divide;
Or sit below some mossy cave,
Where mantling branches seem to wave,
Reflected in the tide.

When Sol descending gilds the sky,
Through clouds of variegated die,
Resplendent on the sight,
I seek the happy village throng,
And join the rustic dance, or song,
That utters in the night.

When Night ascends her ebony throne,
And Philomela vents her moan,
Below some leafy spray,
Aid me to indulge poetic dreams,
Near some smooth lake, where Cynthia's
beams
Upon its surface play.

Or let me step with cautious tread,
Where the dark turret rears its head,
To ruin now consign'd;
Where startled rusticks spectres see,
In every bush and hollow tree,
Or hear them in the wind.

'Tis thou romantic scenes can't trace,
And travel o'er unbounded space,
The ocean, earth, and sky;
Where'er the wand'ring thoughts can go;
Where light'nings glare, or tempests blow,
Descending from on high.

With thee, then, Fancy, let me dwell,
Content in some sequester'd cell,
And virtue's paths pursue;
On thy bright pinions let me soar,
And while I Nature's works explore,
Bid the vain world adieu.

H O P E.

AN ELEGY.

AMIDST the storms that ruffle life,
Amidst the ill mankind deplore;
War, sickness, want, domestic strife,
All their worst stars can have in store.

How comes it still this scene they prize,
Pursue their way tho' tempests lour,
Toil on beneath black frowning skies,
And with far off the fatal hour?

While youth leads on the sportive train,
When pleasure spreads her purple wing,
No wonder all, while these remain,
Should with continuance of their spring.

But winter damps ev'ry joy,
When dead to love, or lost to fame;
Tho' pain and grief our hours employ,
The wish perpetual is the same!

What is it, then, can thus engage
In ev'ry season, ev'ry state?
'Tis Hope, that cheers ev'n drooping age,
And bids us shun the stroke of fate!

Hope that can still assistance lend,
To smoothe the rugged thorny way,
The poor's support, the captive's friend,
Which bids ev'n sorrow's sons be gay.

What choicer bliss could heav'n bestow,
What happier boon could man receive;
To soothe his cares, while here below,
Tho' oft accus'd if it deceive.

The kind deception rising still,
Pain felt with promis'd bliss repays;
With pleasing prospects prompt to fill
The never ending flight of days,

Nor does the pleasing vision fade,
Nor cease its influence to impart;
Ere nature's springs are all decay'd,
And life's last pulse beats at the heart.

Ev'n now I feel its genial pow'rs,
Whilst adverse fortune's frowns I bear,
Which bids me hope for calmer hours,
And drives away the fiend DESPAIR.

Then let me hail thee, heav'nly guest!
Nor ere in vain thy aid implore;
Till fate decrees eternal rest,
And all my sorrows are no more!

LUCIUS,

V E R S E S,

WRITTEN BY A YOUNG LADY, WHO
WAS SEDUCED, AND DESERTED BY
HER LOVER.

WHERE now is that sun of repose,
Which once used to shine on my
brest,
With the morn that so genially rose,
And at night set so kindly to rest?

Withdrawn now, alas! from my sight,
On the morning no longer it beams!
And instead of contentment at night,
Now horror embitters my dreams.

O!

O! Belmour, why e'er did I hear,
What I knew must be death to believe;
Or drink up a strain in my ear,
When I knew it was meant to deceive?

In vain the dark grove do I try,
Some respite from sorrow to find,
For ah! from the world I may fly,
But cannot escape from my mind.

In the thickest recess of the shade,
My conscience cries, ah! guilty fair!
What a wretch a fond father you've made,
What a mother you've plung'd in despair.

The Zephyr's lost innocent gale
Now seems as my conduct to roar,
And the stream, as it winds through the vale,
Cries, Flavia is spotless no more.

At church, in the moment of pray'r,
Remorse lifts her terrible rod,
And harrows my soul with despair,
Tho' I kneel at the throne of my God.

'Tis just, but I cannot complain,
For Belmour still dwells in my eye;
And this bosom so basely betray'd,
Still heaves with too tender a sigh.

In spite of Religion's pure breath,
The softest ideas will rise;
And I doat on destruction and death,
While I labor to hate and despise.

Come, grave, then, thou best of reliefs,
Regardless of season or time,
At once put an end to my griefs,
And throw a dark veil o'er my crime.

Yet cease not, ye tears, still to flow
From the fount of contrition and love;
For excess of sorrow below
A pardon may purchase above.

Can the soft lustre of the sleeping mein,
Yon radiant Heav'n, or all creation's
charms,
"Erase the written troubles of the brain,"
Which mem'ry tortures, and which
guilt alarms?
Or bid a bosom transient quiet prove,
That bleeds with vain remorse, with uns-
extinguish'd love?

V E R S E S,

BY THE LATE WILLIAM SHENSTONE.

'TIS said that under distant skies
(Nor you the fact deny),
What first attracts an Indian's eyes
Becomes his deity.

Perhaps a lily, or a rose,
That shares the morning's ray,
May to the waking swain disclose
The regent of the day.

Perhaps a plant in yonder grove,
Or some rich fragrant flow'r,
May tempt his vagrant eyes to rove
Where blooms the sov'reign pow'r.

Perch'd on the cedar's topmost bough,
And gay with gilded wings,
Perchance the patron of his vow
Some artless hunter sings.

Vain futile idols, bird or flow'r,
To tempt a vot'ry's pray'r?
How would his humble homage tow'r,
Should he behold my fair!

Yes—might the pagan's waking eyes
O'er Flavia's beauty range!
He there would fix his lasting choice,
Nor dare, nor wish to change.

S O N N E T.

BY CHARLOTTE SMITH.

FAR on the sands, the low, retiring tide,
In distant murmurs hardly seems to
flow;
And o'er the world of waters, blue and
wide,
The sighing summer-wind forgets to
blow.

As sinks the day-star in the rosy west,
The silent wave, with rich reflection,
glows:
Alas! can tranquil nature give me rest,
Or scenes of beauty soothe me to re-
pose!

LE NOEUD COULANT.

EPIGRAMME.

JEUNE blondeine aimoit jeune garçon :
Mais un vieillard l'acquies en hyménées,
Par ses écus & par force menée :
Au Sacrement, elle eut longue leçon
Sur ses devoirs : il falloit voir le Prêtre
La sermoner : aimez bien votre maître :
C'est à lui seul que vous joind l'Eternel
Par un saint nœud, par un nœud solennel,
Un nœud divin, le plus grand nœud de
monde.
Elle en pâlit, encor plus le galant :
Mais en sortant, lui dit tout bas la Blonde,
Console-toi, ce n'est qu'un nœud cou-
lant.

MONTHLY

MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Lisbon, September 13.

ON Thursday last, the 11th instant, about half an hour after four o'clock in the afternoon, his Royal Highness the Prince of Brasil died of the small pox.

Stockholm, Sept. 16. A cessation of hostilities having been agreed upon between the Empress of Russia, and the Swedish troops in Finland, the latter, in compliance with the stipulations, retired within their own frontiers, except a battalion of the Queen Dowager's regiment, and another of the regiment of Ostrogothia, who, not having acceded to the convention, kept possession of their posts. Between these and a corps of Russians, a skirmish happened on the 1st instant, in which about fourteen of the enemy were killed, and only two Swedes wounded. It is hitherto uncertain whether or not this affair will lead to a renewal of hostilities between the two armies.

Brague, Sept. 19. The Prince and Princess of Orange went yesterday to the great church in this place, where a sermon was preached before them on the occasion of the anniversary of the revolution which took place last year. A grand concert was afterwards performed in celebration of that event; and this evening there was a drawing-room at the house in the wood, where their Royal and Serene Highnesses received the compliments of the nobility, foreign ministers, and other persons of distinction residing here.

Stockholm, Sept. 26. His Swedish Majesty is now at Carlstadt, occupied in levying new regiments, as he has lately done in Dalecarlia. The Duke of Ostrogothia is lately returned from Finland.

Vienna, Sept. 27. The last letters from the Emperor's head quarters, advise, that the army having advanced from Caransebes towards Slatina, had made a junction on the 4th inst. with General Wartensleben's corps, which had retreated from Fenisch to Armenesch; that, according to the intelligence which the army had received, the Grand Vizir, having joined the Seraskier, was between Schuppaneck and Mehadia, and making dispositions for continuing his march; that accordingly on the 10th, the Grand Vizir fixed his camp on the mountains in sight of the Austrian army, guarded against any attack from the latter by the steepness of the ascent, and

by the defiles; that on the 14th, a considerable corps of Janissaries and Spahis attempted to turn the Emperor's right wing, and to attack the rear of his army, but were repulsed with great loss; since which no further enterprize had been made by the enemy, but they had begun to fire into the camp from their cannon and mortars, and had killed or wounded thirty men, with some draught horses; that on the 19th, intelligence having been received of General Brechaiville's corps being obliged to retreat from Weiskirchen to Weiskhetz, in order to preserve a communication with the detachments, by which means the low country was entirely open to the enemy, both from the mountains, and on the side of the Danube, the Turkish army being advanced to Moldavia, the Imperialists found it necessary to break up the camp at Illova on the 21st, and to retire from the valley of Caransebes into the plain.

Advices have been received here from the combined army encamped near Choczaym, dated the 19th instant, that the garrison having proposed to surrender that fortress by capitulation, the Prince de Coubourg, in concert with Count de Soltikoff, had agreed to receive seven of the principal inhabitants as hostages, for the surrender of the place on the 29th, when the garrison were to march out with their arms, having three days before delivered up all the effects and warlike stores belonging to the Porte.

Vienna, Oct. 4. The last accounts received here from the Imperial army mention, that in their march from Illova, in the evening of the 21st of September, two columns crossing each other in the dark, and a false alarm of the approach of the enemy, gave rise to great confusion, in which some corps of Austrian infantry fired at each other, and the bat men and servants were struck with such a panic, that throwing off the loads from their horses, and out of the carriages, they fled precipitately, so that many officers lost their baggage, and some regiments a part of their field equipage. The Turks harried the rear guard, but were vigorously repulsed in the attacks they made upon it, and obliged to abandon three of their standards. A smart skirmish, however, took place near Caransebes, in which the Austri-

Austrians had 150 men killed and wounded; and some houses in that town were burnt by the Turks. The Emperor continued his march on the 23d to Szekels, and on the 24th to Lugosch, where he remained on the 28th, the heavy baggage being sent on to Temeswaer, without meeting any further interruption from the enemy. On the day preceding the arrival of the army at Caransebes, a considerable number of lawless Wallachians inhabiting the neighbourhood of Lugosch ran into the town, spreading a false alarm that the enemy were close at their heels. This had the effect they wished for. The army baggage (then at Lugosch) was immediately sent off to Temeswaer, when the Wallachians proceeded to pillage whatever they found unguarded, and even many of the houses. A military force however soon put an end to these enormities, and several of the plunderers were taken, and immediately broken on the wheel.

From Croatia we learn, that Marshal Laudohn, having repulsed the Basha of Travnick, in his attack on the Austrians before Novi, and afterwards made a practicable breach in the walls of that fortress, attempted, on the 21st of September, to take it by assault, but met with so very brave a resistance, that he was compelled to abandon his enterprise, and to confine his operations to a regular siege. The loss of the Austrians, in this assault, amounted to 71 men killed, and 213 wounded.

The garrison of Choczim, consisting of about 9000 men, marched out on the 29th of September, with the honors of war, pursuant to the capitulation.

Paris, September 18. This day has been marked by a general revolution of politics in the establishment of a new ministry, and the total dissolution of the old; every member of the Archbishop's confederacy being now discharged, which causes joy, and a visible satisfaction, in the faces of the citizens. Public tumult, which threatened more than France perhaps ever yet experienced, will now cease. The King comes to town this day, to confirm the new appointment, and meet the parliament.

Paris, Sept. 20. Our public prisons are now emptied of their late inhabitants, whose patriotism caused their being immured. Couriers and messengers, both public and private, have been sent to every quarter of the kingdom, to notify these happy events, and the changes that have taken place.

The following is the King's letter to every President and Counsellor of the different Parliaments throughout the nation; which evinces, at last, that the King's new ministers are in earnest to restore happi-

ness and order in this distracted country; and we hope to see no revival of such proceedings, as have caused these commotions and dissensions.

The King's letter runs thus,

SIR,

This is to order and instruct you, that you directly return to the former place of your accustomed residence, and that, from thence you repair, when duly summoned, to the chamber of Parliament, of which you are a Member, there to receive the further commands of your well-disposed Sovereign, which will be communicated in due time; and so I pray God take you into his holy keeping.

Given at Versailles, the 17th of Sept. 1788.

Signed

LOUIS.

Counter signed, De Buffie.

Sept. 22. M. de la Peyrouse is arrived in the sea of Kamtskatka, and has sent letters to France by land through Siberia, Russia, &c.

Cherburg, Oct. 4. The genius of this country rises superior to misfortune: the only visible effect from a great national misfortune is learning how to guard against a repetition.

After an immense, and perhaps incredible expence, the plan of the celebrated cones, the work of years, and favourite of the people, being found imperfect, was laid aside, and the timber sent to Brest to augment a navy it was originally intended to protect. It has, however, been lately found that the stones which were to have made a wall of communication between the cones, having collected the fluctuating sands, have formed a bank, so perfect, that every object of the original design is, allowing for comparative quantity, in every respect accomplished.

The present consequence is the employment of a vast number of men to fill the vacant space: the future consequence may be highly injurious to the commercial interest of Britain.

There are to be two entrances instead of three, one at each side; and when the whole is completed, the navy of France may ride in the basin with entire security.

WEST-INDIA INTELLIGENCE.

Kingston, July 2. Twenty-seven negro houses on Golden-Grove estate, in the parish of St. George, were consumed by fire on Saturday last, about two o'clock in the afternoon. Two negro children perished in the flames, and an inquest was held on their remains; but no circumstance transpired which could warrant an opinion that the catastrophe originated in any thing else than mere accident.

July 19. On Friday last the inhabitants of Spanish-Town were much alarmed by the

the imprudence of a person of color, who had set fire to a piece of grass, near the pen of Thomas Millward, Esq. The flames raged with great fury, and soon communicated to all the fences within their reach; in their progress several negro houses were burnt, and if they had not been timely checked by the exertion of the fire wardens, with the assistance of a numerous concourse of people of all colors and denominations, there would have been just reason for serious apprehensions for the safety of the town.

July 26. This morning, between two and three o'clock, a large hulk, in the service of government, lying off Greenwich, which contained near 2000 barrels of gunpowder, took fire, and blew up with a most terrible explosion. There were only a white man and two negroes on board, and it appears that this alarming accident was occasioned by the carelessness of the latter, who left a fire in the caboose when they went to sleep. A little after midnight the white man awoke and found the vessel on fire; he instantly called the negroes to assist him in quenching the flames; but they suddenly jumped into the only boat along-side, leaving him and the vessel to their fate. In this dreadful dilemma the man got over the bow of the hulk, and supported himself by the cable, until the explosion took place, when he was thrown several yards into the air, and descended into the sea without receiving the smallest hurt, except being slightly scorched; after swimming some little time he providentially met with a canoe, which carried him safe ashore. The concussion was so violent, as to burst open many doors and windows in this town, and we are told, that the road to Greenwich was strewn with fragments of the shattered vessel. The substance of the above relation was taken from the man's mouth who escaped.

St. Jago de la Vega, July 3. A letter from Philadelphia says, "That the savages bordering on the back settlements have killed and scalped upwards of 100 men and women lately, and carried off a considerable booty."

Dominica, August 26. On Thursday the 14th instant, this unfortunate island was again alarmed by the appearance of a hurricane; about six it began pretty severely, towards eight increased, and about nine it blowed exceedingly hard.

The provisions are all destroyed, and canes much injured.

Martinico was attacked very violently about the same time, but much more severely, the buildings in general being thrown down, and the coffee almost entirely rooted up.

Another letter from Dominica, dated August 27, says, "The distresses of the inhabitants of this island have all the ap-

pearance of entreating, as we had a hurricane on the 14th instant, which lasted from four o'clock in the afternoon until eleven at night, and destroyed in the country all the plantains, cassada, &c. entirely broke and laid flat all the forward sugar canes, and beat down a great deal of coffee, of which there was but a small crop. All the merchants in town suffered greatly by the very high surf, which filled the cellars with water.—The Island of Martinico suffered almost a total ruin in buildings and produce; a great many lives were lost, and four ships, lying at Fort-Royal, sunk at their anchors: it is said, that island has sustained more damage than it did by the great hurricanes in 1766."

AMERICA.

Bermuda, July 26. Sunday last commenced a heavy gale of wind from the N. E. which soon got round to the E. S. E. when it blew with great violence all the afternoon, and until about twelve at night, at which time it moderated. Much damage was done by unfastening houses, tearing up trees by the roots, and destroying vegetables and provisions; two houses were also thrown down. Happily for us the gale began in the day, by which most people had time to secure their property. Since the above storm several parts of a wreck have been picked up on the south side, and we fear much damage has been done at sea by it.

New-York, Aug. 20. Yesterday morning the wind from the S. E. blew fresh, accompanied with heavy showers, and about noon increased to a most violent gale, attended by a sudden swell of the sea. The tide, which had ebbed for some time, was driven back with astonishing force, overflowed the wharfs and the streets which were contiguous to the shore, and filled many cellars; the ravages it committed on the battery were remarkable: in the more exposed parts the facing was torn away, and a considerable extent of solid stone work, seven feet in thickness, was totally demolished by the impetuosity of the sea.

Several frames for wharfs that were building on the North river, were forced asunder, and the timber driven in confusion upon the high ground. Large quantities of lumber floated off, several chimneys were thrown down, a house was partly unroofed, and the steeple of St. George's chapel was observed to totter in a most threatening manner.

Happily no material damage was sustained by the shipping, though had the gale continued a little longer, the ships that were most crowded would probably have exhibited a scene of devastation.

We have had no particulars from the country; but have heard generally that the corn, fences, and trees greatly suffered.

Balti-

Baltimore, July 25. Last Wednesday night came on the severest storm ever experienced here at this season of the year. The wind at E. N. E. blew with unabated fury (accompanied with heavy rain) for upwards of twelve hours, which occasioned a most dreadful inundation of the sea, that deluged all the wharfs, stores, and low grounds near the basin and at Fell's point, producing a scene of devastation and horror not to be described. Immense quantities of sugar, rice, salt, dry goods, and other valuable merchandize, were entirely ruined.

We have general accounts from various quarters, of great damage having been done by the violent storm on Thursday last. It is asserted that 40 sail of vessels, large and small, were on that day forced ashore at Norfolk.

Petersburgh, July 31. In the night of Wednesday the 3d inst. we had a most violent storm of wind and rain, which increased during the night to such a degree, as to blow down many very large trees, unroof several houses, destroy a considerable quantity of Indian corn and fruit, and to do other material damage. The destruction among the vessels in Elizabeth river and Hampton road surpasses any thing of the kind ever known to have happened in this country. Many were driven a considerable distance on land, some are totally lost, and hardly one but what has received such damage as to be rendered incapable of proceeding to sea.

New York, Aug. 5. It was yesterday resolved in Congress that the first meeting of the Congress under the New Constitution, should be at Baltimore. On this question there were 13 States present: Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, voted in the affirmative; New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire in the negative.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh, Sept. 29. This day the Right Hon. Lord Haddo, in absence of the Right Hon. Lord Elcho (Grand Master of Scotland) accompanied by the Grand Lodge of Free Masons, with the proper insignia, the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of Edinburgh, in their robes, the Magistrates of Leith, several of the principal inhabitants, &c. walked in procession from the Assembly Rooms at Leith, attended by a party of the military, and a band of music from the castle, and laid the foundation-stone of the draw-bridge at the harbour of Leith with the usual solemnities. In the stone were put some coins of his present Majesty's reign, and they were covered with a plate of silver, on which was engraved the following inscription:

Florent.

SUB. IMPERIO. GEORGH. III.
OMNI. BRITANNIE. ORA.
OPIBUS. ARTIBUS. COMMERCIO.
CIVITAS. EDINBURGENSIS.
VETEREM SUUM. LETHÆ. PORTUM
NAVIVM. MULTITUDINEM. UNIQUE. APPEL-
LENTIVM.
Jam. Non. Capientem.
Munifice. Ampliavit.
A. D. MDCCLXXXVIII.
URBIS. CONSULE. AVIO. JOANNE.
GRIEVE.

Hujusque. Molis. Primum. Lapidem.
Posuit.

NOBILIS. VIR. GEORGIUS. DOMI-
NUS. HADDO.

Die. Septembria. XXIII.

ÆRÆ. ARCHITECTONICÆ 5792.

The Lord Provost and Magistrates afterwards gave an elegant entertainment at the Leith assembly rooms to the gentlemen who were present on this occasion.

Edinburgh, Sept. 29. On Saturday, between 8 and 9 o'clock at night, an alarming fire broke out in the house of a gentleman in Rose-court, a little to the North East of Saint Andrew's church, New-town, which, owing to the violence of the wind, burnt with great rapidity for about three hours. Happily, however, by the spirited exertions of the Magistrates and firemen it was prevented from damaging the adjacent buildings, though the one immediately adjoining was only separated by a brick wall.

Oct. 1. About twenty minutes past two o'clock this afternoon, Brodie and Smith were brought out of the prison on the platform for execution.

From the very bad management of those concerned, the ropes intended for the culprits were found to be of too little extent. By this censurable and infamous conduct, the prisoners were kept in a disagreeable state of anxiety.

Brodie, whose equanimity has been wonderfully testified, ridiculed the whole proceedings; and no callous hearted person, unconcerned in the awful event, could have laughed more cordially on the occasion. He turned the cause of delay into an object of mirth to all those around him.

At last a sufficient length of rope was procured, and the criminals were launched forth into eternity.

They were attended by the Rev. Mr. Hardie. Brodie examined the fatal tree and machinery very attentively; and Mr. Hardie had several times to take hold of his arm, and urge him to make the best use of his time for his peace and forgiveness with the Almighty.

Brodie pulled out his handkerchief and laid it under his knee, when he joined Mr. Hardie in prayer.

The great bell tolled, and every kind of solemnity

solemnity was used to impress the minds of the people, who were very numerous.

October 8. On Friday last a boat, belonging to Preston-pans, laden with oysters for Newcastle, was lost in her way to that port, and the crew, consisting of thirteen men, all perished.—Most of them have left families, and there were three brothers on board.

Perth, September 25. Last night the prison here was broke open by two women, one of whom made her escape. They had made a hole in the roof, from whence they were to swing down by their blankets; this the first effected; but while the second was on her way, the knots of the blankets loosed, and she fell and broke her thigh bone.

September 30. There was this day a very full meeting here of the freeholders of the county, when, among other business, the draught of a bill to be laid before Parliament, for establishing turnpikes on the principal roads in the county was laid before them. It was agreed upon by a majority of six to one.

I R E L A N D.

Dublin, Sept. 20. Every day adds to the number of failures in this city. Since our last, no less than three houses have stopped payment in the west end of the town; the gross amount of their deficiency is very considerable, and, added to the number of bankruptcies that have previously taken place, must have a very mischievous effect.

Affairs are not so bad in the North of Ireland, as was apprehended from the failure of the Blakeleys. At a late meeting of the creditors, a statement was laid before them, by which the parties prove that they are able and willing to pay twelve and sixpence in the pound. This circumstance has raised the drooping spirits of many depending families. It was also agreed, that another meeting of the creditors should be held when called on by the assignees, in order to know whether it will be advisable for them to supersede the commission of bankruptcy, which has been issued against them.

October 11. Friday evening, as the ferry boat belonging to New-ferry, was going to Liverpool with wheat, flour, a great number of sheep, and several other articles, as also a number of passengers, a violent squall of wind arose, which tossed the boat to and fro for a considerable time; during which, the cries of the passengers would have penetrated the most savage hearts, every person striving to save himself. The storm, however, still continuing with unabated fury, and the passengers every moment expecting to go to the bottom, in the disorder, all on board ran to one side of the boat, which instantly overset, and every soul fell into the sea. Nine men and a woman perished; six persons swam

above a mile in their cloaths, and were providentially taken up by the ferry-boat at Rock house, where proper cordials being applied, they were in a short time restored to their strength, and safely landed in Liverpool.

October, 14. Last night, at eleven o'clock, died Earl Nugent, at the house of General O'Donnel, in Rutland-square.

October, 16. There is at present in our garrison, a private soldier, of the name of J——n, who is one of those eccentric characters rare to be met with in life. He is the second son of Richard J——n, Esq; of the county of Westmeath, a gentleman possessed of about twelve hundred a year; he has had a most extraordinary fondness for a military life, which neither hardships, nor misfortune, time, nor experience, could cure him of.—At the age of eleven, he ran away from school, and enlisted as a siler; after the lapse of a year, he was discovered, and brought home; he was then sent to a seminary in Scotland, and no less than nine times enlisted for a common soldier, and was as often purchased out. At length, he was sent to the West Indies to a near relation, but unable to refrain from his favourite mode of life, he prevailed upon his friend to purchase a pair of colours for him, thence he soon afterwards sold, and after a variety of changes, was totally abandoned by his relations. He is now on garrison duty, and often amuses himself with tuning “How merrily we live that soldiers be.”—“How happy’s the soldier who lives on his pay,” and similar compositions in that stile of gaiety, which generally is the result of cheerful spirits and little thought.

Kilkenny, Oct. 11. Thursday morning, about nine o'clock a servant woman having thrown some turf ashes near a rick of hay, adjoining the barracks at Ballyragget, the hay took fire, and the wind being very high, it soon communicated to the barracks, in which the fire raged with great fury for five hours, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of a troop of the 12th dragoons quartered there, assisted by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood; in that time every thing combustible was consumed, so that the mere shell of the barracks alone remains. No lives were lost; a few of the dragoons were a little scorched in endeavouring to save their effects.

Tralee, Sept. 11. A very extraordinary circumstance happened in this county last week, which has given rise to a variety of foolish conjectures, and superstitious absurdities. Mr. Brown, of Iverah, on Monday morning last, left his family, he being in full health, and uncommonly good spirits, and went to one Toomey, a carpenter in the neighbourhood, whom he prevailed on to take his measure, and insisted that a coffin, handsomely ornamented, and suitable to his size, should be sent home on Tuesday evening, as he was convinced he should die on Thursday.

R r Mr.

Mr. Brown having returned home, he prepared the family for the visit of the unwelcome stranger, apprised his wife of his certain death, gave the necessary directions for his funeral, had his coffin laid by his bed-side, and spent from Tuesday to Thursday with the curate of the parish, in the solemn duties of a good Christian. Mr. Brown being of a passionate temper, was indulged by his wife in what appeared to her disagreeably ridiculous, and on Wednesday night he lay in a shroud, and was adorned with other insignia besitting the gloomy pageant.

Thursday morning, about six o'clock, Mr. Brown made his final exit, according to his prediction, and expired without a groan.—Mr. Brown had served in the Prussian army, was a robust man, of a studious turn, and aged about 54, of a respectable family in the North, and greatly esteemed by the neighbouring gentry. His circumstances being on the decline, Lord Kenmare has humanely promised his protection to his two fine boys, whom he has left to mourn the extraordinary catastrophe.

COUNTRY-NEWS.

Haverfordwest, Sept. 24. On Sunday last a dreadful fire broke out at the dwelling house of a farmer, at Talbany, Pembrokeshire, which entirely consumed the same, together with all the out-houses, and implements of husbandry.

The herring fishery has commenced on the coast of this country, which is a happy and seasonable relief to the poor.

Chatham, Sept. 24. Friday evening two Matrosses belonging to the Royal Artillery quartered in our barracks, went to the Dover Castle Inn, in this town, with a person whom they wished to enter as a recruit, but not in their own corps. For this purpose they borrowed a shilling of the landlord, which they gave the man, and after drinking together, they proceeded to Capt. Lane (Regulating officer of the Additionals in the barracks). The Captain on seeing him rejected the man, as having been a few days before discharged from the Additionals, on account of a defect in one of his feet, and ordered the two matrosses out at his back door, while the man was sent off at the fore door; but the villain meeting him on the Terrace, they there beat him so cruelly that he died in about five minutes after. As the shilling given the man had been returned them, it is supposed their spleen against him had arisen from their having spent some money upon him in drinking at the ale house. The jury sat from Monday till yesterday, when after much altercation, they brought in their verdict manslaughter. Accordingly the culprits were this morning committed to Maidstone gaol, to take their trial at the next assizes.

Bath, September 25. Last week John

Marshfield, a labouring man, hanged himself in an out-house in Avon-street. He had very deliberately just before bought a piece of cord, which he put round his neck, and by standing on a bucket fixed it to the beam, he then kicked the bucket to a considerable distance from under him, and was found soon after with his head almost severed from his body, owing to the smallness of the cord.—The Jury having brought in their verdict *Felo de se*, he was buried in the cross road leading to Charlecombe.

Southampton, September 27. On Tuesday last arrived the Rose Custom-house cutter of this port, under the command of Captain Yeats, from a cruise, with a vessel laden with 280 casks of foreign spirits, and a large quantity of tobacco, tea, currants, and soap.

On Wednesday the Sitter of the boat at Christchurch secured in his Majesty's warehouse here 138 casks of foreign spirits, and six bales of tobacco, taken on the shore; and on Thursday the Lymington officers seized a waggon and six horses, laden with ninety casks of foreign spirits, and ten bales of tobacco, which was also brought here.

Newcastle, September 27. Tuesday two workmen, servants to Mr. P. Paxton, by a stone in the wall giving way, were precipitated from the top of a house in Dean-street, whereby one of them received so violent a contusion in his head that it was thought necessary to trepan him immediately; he, however, died as soon as the operation was completed. The other's leg was broken in so terrible a manner, that it was obliged to be cut off, and he was otherwise so much bruised that his recovery is still very doubtful.

On Sunday night last a pilot's boat, with four men on board, that had been out at sea with a ship, in attempting to get into Prior's haven, was overfled by the sea running high; one person was drowned, another had his arm broken, and the others, with much difficulty, saved themselves: and on Tuesday night, one of the water bailiffs, who had that day been at the funeral of the above person, fell over one of the quays into the river, and was drowned.

Ed. 18. On Tuesday last a woman was committed to Newgate, charged by the coroner's inquest with the murder of her husband. It appears that in a quarrel between them she had struck him so violent a blow on the forehead with a poker, as to fracture his skull, in consequence of which he was carried to the infirmary, where, after all medical assistance being used, he died; and the body having been buried some days before it was supposed his death had been occasioned by any intentional violence, it was taken up

on Tuesday for the inspection of the Jury.

Leeds, Sept. 29. Wednesday last, Winny Whitfield, wife of Matthew Whitfield, of Wetherby, was safely delivered of three fine girls, who, together with the mother, are all likely to do well.

On Saturday morning, the wife of John Whitaker, a joiner, of Hunstet, near this town, was safely delivered of two boys and a girl, all likely for life.

A few days ago died at Midhop, in the chapelry of Bradfield, near Sheffield, Ann Mallison, aged 109 years. Within a few months, she walked frequently at the rate of three miles an hour, and was in every respect hearty and active, excepting a cancer in her mouth, which brought on an indispotion that terminated in her death. Her memory failed not till death arrested every other faculty.

Liverpool, Sept. 29. The Abby, Crowe, which arrived here this morning from Barbadoes, was struck with lightning last Friday evening about eight o'clock, off the Old Head of Kinsale, which shivered her main-top - gallant - mast and main - mast, burnt the sails, tore up the half-deck, started the tree-nails and planks on the larboard side, and sheathing below, split one of the pumps to pieces, as well as the barricado, and set the vessel on fire between decks, which blazed aft through the cabin windows, split the decks open in such a manner, that they threw water through it upon the flames, which they were near an hour in extinguishing: fortunately only two of the people were hurt by splinters from the deck: the shock was so great, that Capt. Crowe says the vessel was beat down so low thereby, that the main-deck was within one foot of the water's edge.

Liverpool, Oct. 6. On Saturday morning, about one o'clock, a most daring burglary and robbery were committed in the house of Mr. E. Campbell, cowkeeper, in Rathbone-street, near St. James's walk, by four or five men, who forced the shippon door by means of iron crows, supposed to be taken from the adjoining stone delph, three of which they left behind them. They entered the back part of the house, and proceeded to Mr. Campbell's chamber, where he, with his wife, and a child about sixteen months old, was in bed: on hearing the robbers come into his room, he opened the bed curtains, when one of the villains advanced with his left arm extended, from which hung a piece of old carpeting to secret his face; he with a piece of broomstick struck the master of the house a violent blow over the face, after which, with imprecations and threats of murder, he ordered him to lie still, when he bound his hands behind him and his legs together with

cords, as they did also the hands of his wife, and covered them over the head with the bed cloaths, whilst some of the others went up stairs to the servant man's chamber, where they beat him, rolled him in a carpet, and brought him into his master's room, and laid him on the floor. They then took the keys from Mrs. Campbell's pocket, and deliberately opened every drawer in a chest-upon-chest, which stood in the room, and took from thence 60 guineas and a half, which were deposited there in order to pay for some hay; they then broke open two chests which stood on the stair head, and afterwards drew them across Mr. Campbell's room door, and proceeded down stairs to the parlour, where they broke open a bureau, in which were deposited two 10l. bills, a purse containing eight guineas, all of which they fortunately left behind.— They took from the servant man about 8s. or 10s. in silver and halfpence, the latter of which they examined, and left him about 8d. which were bad; they also left behind them seven bad shillings, and four or five bad sixpences, of the money they took out of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell's pockets; he also found on the room floor one guinea and one shilling, which he supposes they dropped in their hurry. Three servant maids lay in one room, one of whom, by the assistance of her companions, dropped from the window into the yard, and got over into a gentleman's garden adjoining; she knocked at the door, but not being heard, and fearful of alarming the robbers, retired into the necessary, where she remained, with nothing on but her shift, until near seven o'clock. One of the robbers had a piece of coarse canvas, with holes cut in it by way of mask, over his face. They stayed in the house nearly an hour.

Birmingham, Oct. 9. On Sunday evening last, between nine and ten o'clock, six villains, with their faces blackened, and otherwise disguised, forced into the house of Miss Lowe, of Cofton-hall, near Bromsgrove-Lickney, whom they fastened into a closet, and confined the men and women servants in the cellar, &c. except the house-keeper, whom they obliged to shew where the plate and valuables were deposited, which they put into bags or sacks, to the full amount of 600l. including cash; and having regaled themselves with wine, brandy, and such victuals as they could find, walked off very deliberately with their booty. Miss Lowe and her servants remained where the robbers left them all night.

Margate, Oct. 11. On Monday last as the brig Ann and Elizabeth, Capt. Morton, was on her voyage from Ostend to London, laden with silks and turpentine, about half sea over, she was overtaken by

a sudden squall, which carried away both her top-gallant-masts and fore-top-mast; and two of the men happening at that very instant to be on it, one fell into the sea and was drowned, the other fell on the deck and was much bruised; and the storm continuing, they could not clear the wreck until they came under the land, where they lay at anchor, and rode till Tuesday, when they drove, and on casting out another they rode again till Wednesday night, ten o'clock, when the wind increased, the ship broke from her anchor and drove ashore on Fairness's rock, near this place, where her cargo has been taken out and saved; but it is feared the vessel must go to pieces.

Lewes, Oct. 20. The herring season at Brighton this year is likely to prove very productive. On Saturday morning some of the large boats arrived from the coast of Dorsetshire with good cargoes of fish, which were remarkably fine and large, and fetched from 13l. to 16l. the last, which made the earnings of some of the boats amount to 30l. a night.

On Friday evening two boys twelve or thirteen years old, went off to herring catching, and returned the next morning with half a last, which they immediately sold for 8l.

At seven o'clock on Monday morning last the remains of the late John Winton, of Southover, Esq. were interred in the family vault in the church of that place. Mr. Winton's age, added, to the age of the strong beer that was served round at his funeral, makes together 152 years. Mr. Winton being born in 1694, and his strong beer brewed in 1734, which proves the deceased to have been 94 years of age, and his funeral beverage 58 years old.

Salisbury Oct. 27. On Thursday last as some labourers were at work on the turnpike road near the Fox, in the parish of Longparish, they imprudently dug into a pit too deep, when the earth fell in upon two of them, Brown and Wright, both of Andover. Brown was taken out alive, but very much bruised, and Wright was killed on the spot, having almost all his limbs broken to pieces.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Sept. 24. On Thursday last, as a farmer belonging to Hodeford, in Hertfordshire, was travelling his ground with a gun, he observed an uncommon rustling in some brambles; curiosity induced him to advance, imagining that a hare was entangled in the branches, but what was his astonishment on his arrival at the place, to behold an enormous snake, which, with erected crest, and dreadful hissings, threatened him. Actuated by an impulse of fear, he fled; but accidentally meeting a neighbour, and relating to him the event,

the farmer was prevailed on to shew him the place. Having prepared his fowling piece, the two friends returned, and observing the reptile still entangled, the farmer fired, and fortunately killed it. On being disengaged from the brambles, drawn into the path, and placed at full length, it measured twelve feet from the head to the extreme point of the tail; and the circumference in the thickest part fourteen inches.

Saturday last, a maid servant belonging to the Castle and Falcon Inn, followed a passenger with some of his luggage to Fleet-street, where, he was to get into the stage-coach that went from the house where he lived. She delivered the goods to the owner into the coach, near Temple-bar, and then presented a bill for some part of his reckoning and other expences left unpaid. An altercation arose between them, which appearing to the driver and the guard to encroach upon their time, they desired the woman to be gone. The one threatening to fire upon her and the other to drive over her if she persisted in remaining. The woman not minding their menaces, and still insisting upon having her money, remained at the coach door—the driver whipped the horses, and the woman was so entangled in the wheels, that she was shockingly crushed between the coach and Temple-bar. As soon as she was extricated, the beholders seized the coachman and guard, and secured them in prison. The woman expired in the way, as she was conducting to an hospital.

Sept. 25. Yesterday morning advice was received at the East India-house, that the Warren Hastings, homeward-bound East Indiaman, was safe in Margate Roads, on Tuesday afternoon, where she was to remain until this morning, and then proceed for the River.

Yesterday morning Mr. Clarkson, the purser of the Osterly homeward-bound East Indiaman, came to the East India-house, with the agreeable intelligence of the safe arrival of the above ship off Dover, from Coast and China. She sailed from St. Helena the 29th of July last.

Sept. 27. On Thursday morning, about one o'clock, the following murder was committed at the house of one Blundus, a publican, in Eagle-street, Red Lion-square. Several persons were together, particularly John Andrews, the deceased, and William Richardson, who committed the murder. A quarrel having arisen between Richardson and a third person, the former struck the other on the head with a quart bottle, and thereby cut him in a dangerous manner. Richardson was going to repeat his blows, when Andrews interfered, in order to prevent it. A fight then ensued between Andrews and Richardson.

Richardson, which ended in the defeat of Richardson, but they shook hands, sat down, and drank together. In about ten minutes, as Andrews was going towards the door, Richardson drew a knife, and cut him cross ways on the right side, then stabbed him on the left, just below the heart, and afterwards below the ribs on the same side. In the confusion Richardson absconded, and Andrews died on Friday morning about eight o'clock, at the same house.

Sept. 29. At one o'clock the Lord Mayor and about seventeen Aldermen, with Mr. Sheriff Curtis, (Sir Benjamin Hammett, the other Sheriff being indisposed) and the City Officers came upon the Hustings, and opened the hall for the election of a Lord Mayor for the year ensuing, when Aldermen Gill and Pickett were the two returned by the Livery to the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen for their choice. When they returned to the Hustings, the Common Serjeant (the Recorder being absent) reported that the election had fallen on Alderman Gill, who being robed, came to the front of the Hustings, and made a speech to the Livery, which was to the following purport *Gentlemen of the Livery, and Fellow Citizens,*

I return you my heart-felt thanks for the high honour you have conferred upon me this day, by electing me the Chief Magistrate of this city. (Here he made a pause). I promise you to give the strictest attention to the due administration of justice, to support the honour and dignity of this great city, and to conduct myself so as to merit your approbation.

This short speech was received with the warmest applause.

Mr. Alderman Pickett then came forward, and made some observations on four motions, which he said he should read, relative to the taking down Temple Bar, and the improvements that he could wish to have made at the West end of the City, and the entrance into the Strand, by the removal of the houses on the South side of Butcher-row and a part of St. Clement's church. After he had read the four motions, he then moved the first, and asked if there was any gentleman that would second it; he then paused a little, and there not being any person that offered to second the question, he bowed, saying he was perfectly satisfied with having done his duty, and retired.

Mr. Bird moved, that the thanks of this Common-Hall be given to James Fenn and Matthew Bloxam, Esqrs. late Sheriffs of this city and county of Middlesex, for their active and meritorious discharge of the duties of their office, and for their exemplary humanity to the poor prisoners committed to their care, during the course of their Shrievalty.

The Livery, as it were, one and all, cried out, No! No! Separate them—separate them; upon this, the Lord Mayor ordered the Common Cryer to adjourn the Hall.

Upon which, Mr. Bird came forward again, and at the time the Common Cryer was adjourning the Hall, he moved for the thanks of the Livery to Mr. Bloxam, upon which there was an astonishing shew of hands. On his putting the question on the contrary, there were plenty of hisses: thus the business of the Common-hall finished.

Oct. 4. Thursday last, at St. Margaret's Hall, a meeting of the Freemen of the city of London, resident in the Borough, was held, Sir W. Lewes in the chair; when it was resolved to petition the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, to restore their dormant franchises, and to admit representatives from the Ward of Bridge Without to sit in the court of Common Council.

Same day, a genteel dressed lady called at a public house in Chelsea, and drank a glass of liquor, when the immediately went to a ditch close by the Willow Walk, Surrey-side Chelsea-bridge, and plunged herself into the water, which was of depth sufficient to drown her. This unfortunate lady is supposed to have been the wife of a gentleman in the city. She was richly apparelled, the lace on her cloak being of considerable value. It has not yet been discovered who she was.

On Friday last, the house of James Seafson, Esq. of Newington-green, in the county of Middlesex, was burglariously broke open, and entered by two persons, who stole thereout a large quantity of plate; one of whom Mr. James Seafson pursued and took, who proves to be the notorious William Collard, with part of the property upon him, and conveyed him before the sitting Magistrate at the Public Office in Clerkenwell Close, who committed him to New Prison, Clerkenwell, for further examination.

Oct. 15. On Saturday morning between the hours of one and three o'clock, the Palace of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, was burglariously broke open by some villains, it is supposed several in number, who got over the garden-wall, and entered the house by breaking through the brick-work which has been recently erected to block up a door at the end of the passage that leads immediately to the plate rooms, from whence they stole a great quantity of plate.

Oct. 26. Wednesday the Sessions began at the Old Bailey, when Joshua Solly, for robbing Godfrey Thornton, Esq. and George Schamp and John Pace, for robbing Joseph Robinfson, were found guilty, and condemned.

Oct. 26. Monday last at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, George Metcalf and Sarah his wife were tried on an indictment for assaulting a female child, of the age of thirteen years. It appeared from the evidence of the girl, corroborated by two other witnesses, that being destitute of parents, she was put out by her aunt as a servant to the defendants, who promised to treat her as their own child. A short time afterwards, however, the girl having committed a trifling fault, her master laid her across two chairs, stuffed a cloth in her mouth, and held up her cloaths, while his wife flogged her with a rod that had been previously prepared in pickle, in a most severe manner, for a quarter of an hour; and as soon as Mrs. Metcalf had done, her husband continued the flagellation for another quarter of an hour. A day or two afterwards, while the body of the girl was very sore and lacerated, from the former chastisement, the man, without any reasonable cause, again flogged her in a cruel manner; in consequence of which, she left the defendant's house, and returned to her aunt.

They were both found guilty; and the court considering this assault to be aggravated on the part of the man, by circumstances very unmanly and indecent, they therefore sentenced the husband to pay a fine of 20*l.* and his wife to be imprisoned for fourteen days.

Some very important discoveries have lately been made in the Southern whale fishery, which, if properly noticed and nurtured, may be of the greatest service to this country. The account is literally as follows: A large bay has been lately discovered on the southern peninsula of Africa, within forty leagues or thereabouts of the Cape of Good Hope, where whales are in such abundance, that there is always a certainty of many more ships than we at present employ annually in the Greenland whale fishery getting a complete lading in a very short time, and it is the more likely to be very valuable, as many of them are of the spermaceti kind.

A gentleman who was last season on the fishery reports, that he saw upwards of an hundred fine young whales frequenting the above-mentioned bay, which seems to be a nest for the breeding of those creatures, killed out of mere wantonness, some of which were driven ashore by the waves, and others lay upon the surface of the sea dead, and good for nothing, as they were too young for getting any quantity of blubber from which the oil is obtained. Such practices as this could not fail in a very few years, if repeated, to destroy the fishery; as the whales, which are naturally a timid animal, would at length be driven away from a place where at present they swarm in such abundance.

PROMOTED.—Mr. James Beattie, to be one of the Regents or Professors of Philosophy, in the Marischal College, in the University of Aberdeen, in the room of Doctor William Morgan, deceased. Miss Ann Boscawen to be Sempstress and Laundress to her Majesty, in the room of the Honourable Mrs. Chetwynd, deceased. The Honourable Miss Augusta Brudenel, to be one of her Majesty's maids of Honor, in the room of Miss Ann Boscawen.

BIRTHS.—The lady of Sir Thomas Whichester, Bart. of a daughter, at Atherby, Lincolnshire. Her Grace the Duchess of Athol, of a son, at Athol-house, Scotland. Of two boys and a girl, the wife of Mr. Mills, in the Borough. The lady of William Middleton, Esq. of a daughter, at his seat in Yorkshire. The lady of Sir George Alanon Winn, Bart. of a daughter. The lady of the Earl of Abingdon, of a daughter, at his Lordship's house in Upper Brook-street. The Countess of Shaftsbury, of a daughter.

MARRIED.—At Sheffield, John Hawksley, Esq. to Miss Wilson, daughter of Mr. Samuel Wilson, silver-plater, of the same place. Saul Banfil, Esquire, of Leghorn, to Miss Elther Franco, second daughter of the late Raphael Franco, Esq. At Newington Butts, Richard Squire, Esq. of Blackman-street, to Miss Witherstone, of Bristol. At Winsley, Wilts, — Shute, Esq. of London, to Miss Fisher, of Winsley. William Nichole, of the Middle Temple, Esq. Barrister at Law, to Miss Cadogan, daughter of Dr. Cadogan. James Patch, Esq. of Red Lion-square, to Miss Nancy Patch, of Norfolk-street, in the Strand. Nicholas Segar Parry, Esq. of Layton, Essex, to Miss Eburne, of Highbury place. Charles Hawkins, Esq. to Miss Harriet Truedale, of Pall-Mall. Paul Cary, Esq. of Bath, to Miss Ann Stevens, of Chippenham. At Edinburgh, William Wemyss, Esq. of Wemyss, Member of Parliament for the county of Fife, to Miss Erskine, eldest daughter of Sir William Erskine, of Torry. Augustus Robinson Smith, Esq. late of Bengal, to Miss Penelope Russel, daughter of the Rev. George Russel, of Spring Park, Devonshire. John Dixon, Esq. a banker in Chancery lane, to Miss E. Beavan, daughter of — Beavan, Esq. of the Betters, Breconshire. Richard Henry Clark, Esq. of Wapping, to Miss Winckworth, of Great Portland-street. J. Tinker, Esq. to Mrs. Ashton, of Weybridge, Surry. At Fenshanton, James Rust, Esq. of Huntingdon, and formerly a Fellow-Commoner of Christ's College, to Miss Brown, daughter of the late Launcelot Brown, Esq. Mr. Charles Wren, coach-maker, of Wigmore-street, Gavendish-square, to Miss — Miller, second daughter of John Miller, Esq. of Ealing.

Ealing, Middlesex. At Bath, Mr. John Crofs, of Twuley, Wilts, to Mifs Hay, daughter of R. Hay, Esq. of London. Mr. Wirgman, jeweller, of St. James. Mr. T. Salter, of the Post-office, to Mifs S. Hannah Pultale, of Red-crofs street. Mr. Phipfon, of Chelsea, furgeon, to Mifs Lydice Flayer, daughter of the late Peter Flayer, Esq. of Shinfield, near Reading, Berks. At West Quantockfhed, the Rev. Mr. Rowland Chambre, Rector of Thornton, in Cheshire, to Mifs Balch, eldest fister of Everard Balch, Esq. of St. Audries, in that county.

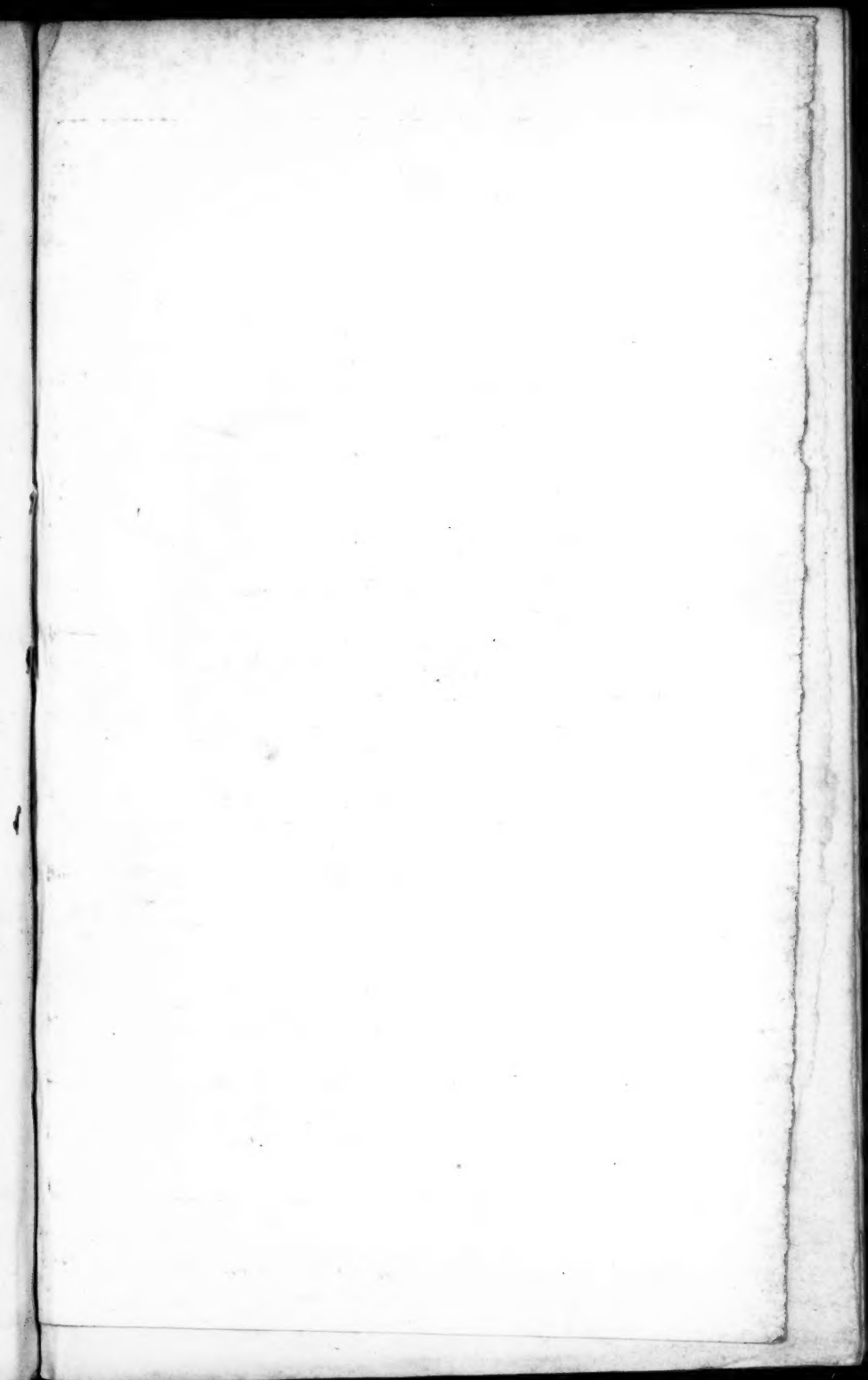
DIED.—At Buxton Wells, the Hon. and Rev. William Digby, Dean of Durham. The Countefs of Lancborough. Lieutenant Col. St. George, of the 8th dragoons. In Cannon-ftreet, Edward Watfon, Esq. At Bath, Robert Walsh, Esq. late Lieutenant-colonel of the 54th regiment of foot. At Bathampton, aged 83, the Hon. Frances Cotes, daughter of Lord Digby, and widow of Col. James Cotes. At his houfe near Rumford, in Effex, Thomas Sandford, Esq. At Ferns, in Ireland, Mr. Kiawan, aged 127 years. At Norbiton-place, Surry, Lady Philipps, mother to Lord Milford. Jacob Duché Esq. late of Philadelphia. The Rev. Dr. Backhouse, Archdeacon of Canterbury. At Rippon, John Lister, Esq. John Clarke, Esq. At Lewifham, Mr. Gabriel Gregory. At Olfend, the lady of Sir John Peter, his Britannic Majesty's conful in the Aufrian Netherlands. At Chelsea, Nicholas Ray, Esq. The Hon. Mrs. Deborah Chetwynd, daughter of Lord Viscount Chetwynd, and temprefs and laundrefs to her Majesty. At Perth, the Hon. Lieutenant James Nairn, fourth fon of the late William Lord Nairn. Lieutenant-General Prefcot. Joshua Manger, Esq. At Highgate, Nicholas Melle, Esq. At Hackney, Capt. Arthur Wildman. Sir Robert Taylor, of Spring-gardens. Robert Dickenfon, Esq. Mrs. Bond Hopkins, wife of Benjamin Bond Hopkins, Esq. of Pains-hill, Surry. At Brussels, Mr. P. Bourgeois, merchant, of Jewry-ftreet. At Shrewfbury, William Gaull, Esq. late Major in the 35th regiment of foot. At Witton-hall, near Birmingham. Mrs. Boswell, wife of John Boswell, Esq. John Boswell, Esq. At Bath, Mrs. Ann Benet, fecond daughter of the late Thomas Benet, Esq. of Norton Bayant, Wilts. Capt. Jonathan Trelawney, late in the Levant trade. At Stamford-hill, Richard Brown, Esq. At Gaddestone Place, in Hertfordshire, Thomas Halfey, Esq. In France, John Cooper, Esq. formerly of Wha Houfe, near Broughton. In Mortimer-ftreet, Cavendish-square, James Harley, Esq.

BANKRUPTS.—James Ellis, of Newgate-ftreet, linen-draper. John Watfon,

of Watling-ftreet, linen-draper. William Fitzmaurice, of Jamaica, merchant. Jenkin Cullen, of Folklone, Kent. George Lock, of Ludgate-ftreet, hofier. John Skidmore, of Aldgate, plumber. Thomas Smith, of Gracechurch-ftreet, oilman. Robert Hall, of Bury, in Lancashire, shop-keeper. Gottfcal Fulda, late of Berlin, in Pruffia, but now of St. Mary Axe, dealer. Ghristopher Wroot, late of Sutton St. Mary's, in Lincolnshire. John Dixie, of St. John's-ftreet, Middlefex, dealer. John Rambett, of George-ftreet, taylor. Julius Conrad Ridder, late of Lifbon, in Portugal, but now of London, merchant. Andrew Nance, of Southampton, hatter and hofier. John Terrington, of Danthorpe, in Yorkfhire, farmer. James Curry, of Manchester, callico-manufacturer. George Wardell, of Southampton, merchant. John Laugharne Allen, of Bellmont, Harroldfton-Weft, Pembrokefhire, dealer. Lawrence Wenham, of Joiner's Hall Buildings, Upper Thames-ftreet, merchant. Thomas Lomas, of Manchester, cotton-merchant. Thomas Carter, of Cheapfide, pocket-book-maker. Martha Godley, of New Bond-ftreet, milliner. William White, of Ide, Devonfhire, dealer. Michael Clark, late of Maidenhead-bridge, Bucks, innholder. Thomas Bowfells and George Padmore, of Wimbledon, Surry, callico-printers. John Emmet, late of Hodder within Aighton, Lancashire, cotton-spinner. John Laphorn, of Portsmouth, Taylor. Thomas Tupholme, of Snow-hill, linen-draper. John Lewis Stone, of the City of Bristol, tinman. William Sandell, of Prince's-ftreet, near the Mansion-Houfe, London, broker. Robert Wilfon, of Cloak-lane, London, broker. John Hind, late of Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn, but now of Bermondfey, merchant. William Richard Wilfon, of Crown Court, Broad-ftreet, merchant. Robert Tellings, of Bath, Somerfetfhire, linen-draper. Reuben Joynour, of Dean's Hill, Gloucestershire, merchant. Joseph Kendrick, of Birmingham, button-maker, John Grimes, of Birmingham, dealer. William Williams, late of Leeds, Yorkfhire, but now of Ludlow, Salop, merchant. John Corker, now or late of Sheffield, Yorkfhire, fciffarfmith. Richard Groves Taylor, late of Witney, Oxon, blanket-weaver. Eleanor Hanford, of Alford, Lincolnshire, inholder. Robert Noyes Cooper, of Bristol, grocer. John Woodhead, the elder, and John Woodhead, the younger, both of Withers, in Bramley, Yorkfhire, Clothiers. John Kent, of Gofport, builder. Samuel Thorley, of Argyll-ftreet, Oxford-ftreet, Surgeon. Alexander Macdonald, late of Tain, Rofa-shire, but now of Birmingham dealer. Charles Francis Badini, late of Johnfon's court, Charingcrofs, dealer.

EACH DAY'S PRICE OF STOCKS IN SEPTEMBER, 1788.

Bank Stock.	3 per Ct. reduc.	3 per Ct. Confol.	Ditto 1786.	4 per Ct. Confol.	5 per Ct. Navy.	Long Ann.	Short ditto.	India Stock.	India Ann.	India Bonds.	S. Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New 3perCt 1781.	New Navy.	Exch. Bills.	Lottery Tickets.	Irish L Tickets.
27	fh175 ^{top}	74	71		113					71 pr.		73				16 5 0	7 9 0
29	Holiday.				113					70 pr.		73		12 dif.		16 5 0	7 9 0
30	fh175 ^{top}	74	71		113					70 pr.		73		12 dif.		16 5 0	7 9 0
1	fh176	74	71		113					71 pr.		74		12 dif.		16 5 0	7 9 0
2	fh176	74	71		113					72 pr.		74				16 5 0	7 9 0
3	fh176 ^{top}	fh76 ^{top} op	74		113											16 5 0	7 9 0
4			74		113											16 5 0	7 9 0
5	Sunday.				113					72 3 pr.		74				16 5 0	7 9 0
6	fh176 ^{top}	74	71		113					73 pr.		74				16 5 0	7 9 0
7	fh176	74	71		113			169		73 pr.		74				16 5 0	7 9 0
8	fh176	74	71		113					73 pr.		74		2 dif.		16 5 0	7 9 0
9	fh176	74	71		113					73 3 pr.		74				16 5 0	7 9 0
10	fh176	74	71		113					72 pr.		74				16 5 0	7 9 0
11	fh176	74	71		113											16 5 0	7 9 0
12	Sunday.				113											16 5 0	7 9 0
13	fh176	74	71		113					73 pr.	83					16 5 0	7 9 0
14	fh176	74	71		113					73 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
15	fh176	74	71		113					73 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
16	fh176	74	71		113					72 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
17	fh176	74	71		113					73 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
18	Holiday.				113											16 5 0	7 9 0
19	Sunday.				113											16 5 0	7 9 0
20	fh176	74	71		113					73 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
21	fh176	74	71		113			170		73 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
22	fh176	74	71		113					72 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
23	fh176	74	71		113			170		73 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0
24	fh176	74	71		113			170		72 pr.						16 5 0	7 9 0



LITERARY MAGAZINE & BRITISH REVIEW.



S^r. ISAAC NEWTON.

Published as the Act directs 1 Decr. 1788 by C. Forster N^o 41 Postory.

